

ALEX MAXWELL

LEARN GERMAN FAST!

48 HOURS TO LEARNING GERMAN
(BUT NOT MASTERING IT)



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Alex Maxwell

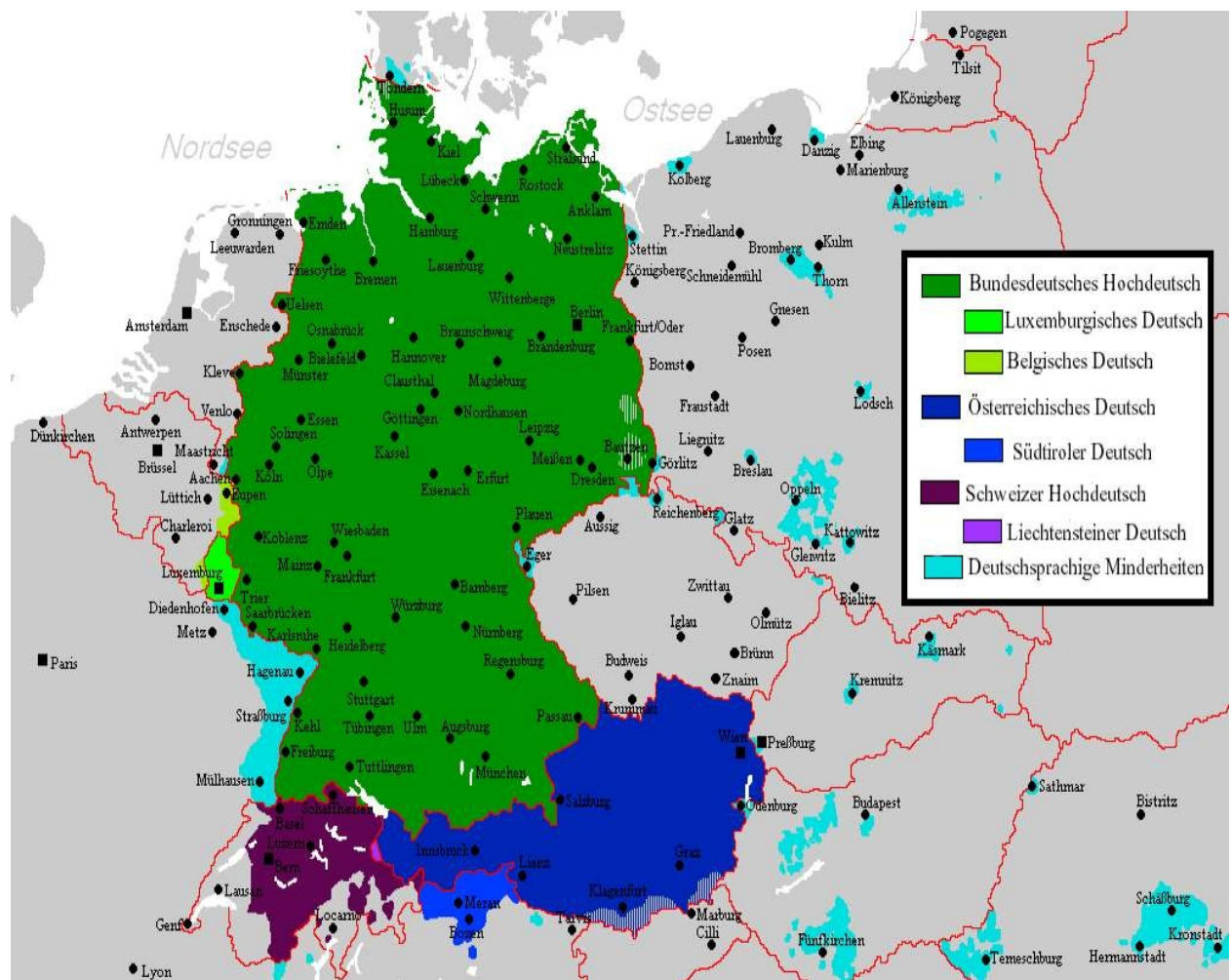


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Cheers,

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INTRODUCTION

This is an introduction to the German language. You will not be as fluent as a native speaker by the time you finish working through this book. What you will be able to do, however, is navigate your way through a German speaking country more easily. Each chapter is designed to help you develop the skills you need to get through the situations you will most likely find yourself in while on a business trip or vacation to a German speaking country.

The German language has a reputation for being difficult to learn. The grammar is much more involved and rigid than it is in English. There are three different articles (der, die, das) where English just has one (the) and each of them change depending on which of four functions (or, cases) the noun it is attached to is performing. German grammar is particularly strict about where the verb goes in a sentence.

In English, you can, more or less, throw all the words you need into a sentence without much thought as to the exact order they are in. In German, the verb dictates the order of the entire sentence and if there's two verbs in one sentence, hang on to your hats because the whole sentence is going to have to be reorganized to accommodate them.

I am not telling you this to deter you from learning German. However, it is important before you begin to understand that there are going to be some challenges as there are with any languages. It is important that you have some idea of which unique challenges you can expect with a new language. For German, the greatest challenge will be the grammar.

On the other hand, there are some aspects of German which you will find refreshingly simple. Linguistically, German is very closely related to English. In fact, the two evolved from the same common ancestor. They are both Germanic languages. Because of this, you will notice that there are a relatively large number of cognates (words that are more or less the same in both languages). This will make bulking up your German vocabulary surprisingly easy.

So, the difficulty of the grammar is balanced out by the ease of picking up new vocabulary. You will also be pleased to know that German speakers are quite sympathetic to those who are trying to learn their language. They know the

grammar is not easy to master so even if you are butchering their language, they will still be able to understand the idea you are trying to get across. So don't worry too much about speaking in perfectly correct German grammar on your trip. You surely recall an experience in which you listened to a foreign person attempting to speak English. They likely made their fair share of grammatical mistakes but you still understood the general idea, right?

With that in mind, you might still be asking yourself, *why* should I learn German? If it's going to be difficult and most German speakers will know enough English for me to get around, why bother? Here are just a few things to motivate you to get through this book (and maybe even to sign up for a course and become completely fluent!):

German is the most common language in Europe: In all of Europe, there are more people who speak German as their native tongue than any other language in the region. Learning German will connect you with the more than 120 million native German speakers. Then, you have to take into account the number of people who learn it as their second language. It is the 3rd most popular second language in the *world*. For perspective, the first is English so with German, you will speak 2 out of the 3 most popular global languages!

Germany is a strong global economy: Germany's economy is the third largest in the entire world and the economic foundation of the European Union. Switzerland (another German speaking country) has the highest standard of living in the world. So if you want to secure your future against anything that might happen, speaking German will ensure that you remain in competitive in the global market.

Americans are pretty much Germans: Americans can trace their ancestry all across the globe. It's one of the things that makes the country so beautifully diverse. However, by far the largest proportion of Americans has German ancestry. The entire Midwest and northern United States is filled predominantly with Americans of German origins. In fact, there are even pockets of native German speakers to be found all throughout the country. So, learning German can put you in touch with America's roots as well.

Be able to read German books: German literature is world renowned for

its quality and beauty. You may not think of German as a “beautiful” language but, surprisingly, it can be extremely aesthetic and it is definitely very powerful. It’s no wonder that 1 out of 10 books that are published in the entire world are published in German. German writers produce an average about 80,000 new books per year. So if you are a book lover, learn German to make sure that you *never* find yourself stuck without something to read!

Germans are more influential than you might realize: many of the world’s most influential thinkers, artists, and scientists were German: Karl Marx, Friedrich Nietzsche, Albert Einstein, Sigmund Freud, Carl Jung, Immanuel Kant, Mozart, Beethoven, Strauss, Bach, Wagner, Franz Kafka, Goethe, Schopenhauer, and countless more. Being able to read their writing in the original German will allow you to connect with your favorite authors and thinkers in ways you never could before.

With all that in mind, you are ready to begin your journey into the German language. Here are a few tips to make sure that you learn as quickly and thoroughly as possible:

Beef Up Your Vocabulary: While the grammar is certainly important so that you can make sense, the most important thing is to make sure you build your vocabulary up. The more words you know, the more ideas you can express. The grammar will come with practice so don’t worry so much about making grammatical mistakes at this stage in the game. Focus primarily on learning as many words as possible to practice your grammar with. Invest in flashcards or download a flashcard study app for your phone so that you can work on memorizing and building your vocabulary. Each chapter in this book will contain a vocabulary list of all the new words you are going to learn in the chapter. Make flashcards for these words so that you can continue working on memorizing the vocabulary even as you move on to the next chapter.

Learn the cognates: chapter two in this book will give you a short list of cognates to get you started but try to look for as many cognates as possible. This will dramatically increase the size of your German vocabulary in a short period of time which is not only useful for the sake of speaking the language but also extremely encouraging as you struggle

to learn the grammar.

Create opportunities to use the language: even before you travel to a German speaking country, find ways to use the language. If you don't happen to live somewhere with a lot of German speakers, use the internet. Stream a German radio station, read a German newspaper, watch German TV shows and movies. Try to make sure you hear and read German every single day. There are also some websites where you can find tandem partners who are willing to chat or skype with you in German so that you can practice speaking. The service is free because they usually want help with English in exchange. In this way, you both help each other improve your speaking skills.

Use as many resources as possible: this book is a very comprehensive guide of all the essentials you need to know to speak *functional* German (not fluent, but usable for everyday situations). If you want to master the language or speed up the process at which you master the concepts in this book, create a study plan that uses multiple resources. Study this book then practice what you have studied by reading, watching, listening, and speaking German as much as possible.

Practice, practice, practice: the simple fact is that learning a language is, above all, about practice. The more you use it, the better you will get. This is how babies learn to speak their first language. They are immersed in it throughout infancy and eventually begin trying to speak it themselves. Unlike a baby, however, you have the added advantage of being able to study the language. When a child doesn't know the word they need, they look for a way around it. If you don't know how to say "I drive the car" you can instead say something like "I go with the car." Language is remarkably flexible. There are multiple ways to communicate the same basic message so if you can't say it the way you want to, use the words you know to say it another way. No matter what, just keep speaking! The more you speak, the easier it will get.

Use mnemonics: this is a learning device to help you remember words. Sometimes we encounter words that we cannot, for whatever reason, seem to memorize as they are. For these words, think up a mnemonic device for the word that will help you commit to memory. For example,

there is a very common verb in German that is a “false friend,” that is, it looks like a cognate but it actually has a completely unrelated meaning. The verb is “bekommen” and it does *not* mean “to become.” It means “to receive.” To help you remember the true definition and not confuse it for the false English friend “become,” use a mnemonic device. You can make up your own but to give you an idea, it can be something as simple as “I become a cheese sandwich.” This works because in English, the sentence is nonsensical. You can’t *become* a cheese sandwich (at least, not with the current available technology). However, you can *receive* a cheese sandwich. A mnemonic device can be a nonsensical sentence like the one above to help make it very clear what the definition is. But it can also be a rhyme, a song, or even breaking apart and rearranging the word. Whatever works the best for you for a specific word or concept is a perfect mnemonic device. There are no rules so have fun with it!

Set milestones for yourself: make concrete goals that are achievable. The problem that most people have when they start learning a language is that they just tell themselves “I want to learn German” without understanding exactly what they mean by that. Do you want to become fluent? Do you just want to be functional? Do you want to be able to read a specific book or author in German? Do you want to visit a specific country? Know exactly what your goal is and then break it down into milestones. One way to do this is to use Europe’s framework for language learning. Language skills in Europe are measured according to a standardized set of criteria. Your skills will fall within a spectrum between A1 and C2 with A1 being the most basic level of language skills and C2 being complete native fluency. Within this spectrum, the categories are further broken down into two parts (i.e.- A1-1 and A1-2 and so on for each level). Each one comes with a very specific set of criteria for determining that you have reached the level. These can be very useful in helping you craft specific milestones and goals. Tell yourself rather than say “I want to learn German”, say “I want to speak at an A2-1 level within 3 months” then figure out exactly what the specific criteria are for that level. This book, for example, is intended to bring you from no knowledge of German to level A2-2.

Speak! As soon as you start learning, start speaking. This is the best way to commit the things you have learned to memory. If you don’t have a

native speaker available, find someone else who is learning German (or who is willing to start learning German with you). Agree to speak together in German for at least 30 minutes per day. If you do this, you will notice yourself improving at a very rapid pace. *Using* your language, no matter what your skill level is the most important part of learning. That's why building the vocabulary is so important so that you have enough concepts to use your newly learned grammar with. If you don't have an opportunity to speak German every day, make sure to write. Write some sentences or even a whole paragraph using what you already know and what you have just learned from your studies that day.

Keep these tips in mind as you read through the rest of this book. It will help you maximize the results you get from it and help ensure that you are studying as effectively as possible.

As mentioned earlier, this book is broken down into chapters based on everyday situations you are likely to find yourself in as you explore the German speaking country of your choice. The first two chapters provide you with some foundational concepts rather than specific real world situations but with those two chapters, the rest of the book will be much easier to get through so do not skip them. The chapter topics are as follows:

The Basics

- The German Alphabet

- Pronouncing German Sounds

- The Articles

- The Noun Cases

- Verb Conjugation (for regular verbs)

Vocabulary Foundations

- Numbers

- Telling Time

- Adjectives

Cognates

Introduce Yourself

Greetings

Polite Conversation

The Formal vs. Informal “You” in German

Tell Us about Yourself

Where you are from

Family

Prepositions

In Your Free Time

Hobbies

Activities

Likes and Dislikes

Reflexive Verbs

Making Small Talk

Weather

On TV/At the Movies

Feelings

What Did You Do Yesterday?

Past Tense

Arrivals and Departures

Airport/Train Station

Asking for Directions and Help

Forms of Transport

Talking about Travel Plans

Plan a Vacation

Future Tense

On the Street

Asking for Directions

Understanding Street Signs

Forming Compounds and Contractions with Prepositions

In the Restaurant

Placing an Order

Paying the Bill

Hauptsatz, Nebensatz

Answer Guide

Chapter by chapter guide with answers for all exercises in the book

Quick References

Vocabulary Lists

Grammar Cheat Sheets

Useful References

Before you begin studying, you should print out the quick references at the end of this chapter. To make studying easier, you should print the entire book out. However, it is quite a few pages and you may not want to use up all that ink and paper. Printing out the quick references at the end will at least allow you to quickly check words, grammatical rules, and other necessary information that you will often need to consider as you complete the practice exercises and reviews throughout this book.

CHAPTER 1: THE BASICS

There are a few basic rules that you will need to understand before you can begin to speak in German. Namely, you will need to know how to pronounce the words as you work your way through this book. In this chapter you will learn:

- Pronunciation of the German alphabet

- Definite and indefinite articles in German

- Grammatical cases in German

- Conjugations for regular verbs

Much of this will seem a bit challenging at first as an English speaker as there are a few sounds in German that will feel unnatural and there are many grammatical concepts that simply don't exist in English. You will likely need to refer back to this chapter a few times as you read the other chapters to remind yourself of some of these rules.

THE ALPHABET

The German alphabet looks more or less the same, with a couple extra letters. The key difference is in how to pronounce the letters. Read this list aloud to practice your pronunciation:

Letter der Buchstabe	Pronunciation die Aussprache	Example das Beispiel
A	ah	der Apfel (apple)
B	bay	der Bruder (brother)
C	tsay	Celsius (Celsius)
D	day	Dienstag (Tuesday)
E	a (like the English A)	essen (to eat)
F	eff	der Freund (Friend)
G	gay	gut (good)
H	hah	der Hammer (hammer)
I	ee	interessieren (to interest)
J	yot	das Jahr (year)
K	kah	der Kugelschreiber (pen)
L	El	das Land (land, country)
M	em	der Mann (man)
N	en	nein (no)
O	Oh	die Oper (opera)
P	pay	die Polizei (police)
Q	koo	bequem (comfortable)
R	er	der Raum (space, room)
S	es Note: when followed by a vowel, it is pronounced as the English z.	der Sommer (Summer) die Maus (mouse)

T	tay	die Tankstelle (gas station)
U	ooh	die Universität (university)
V	fow	der Vogel (bird)
W	vay	auf Wiedersehen (goodbye)
X	kz sound as in “hex”	die Hexe (witch)
Y	Same as the English y	typisch (typical)
Z	ts sound like the end of “pits”	die Zeitung (newspaper)
Ä	Similar to the e in “yellow”	ähnlich (similar)
Ö	Similar to the i in “girl”	Österreich (Austria)
Ü	As in “über,” no English equivalent	müde (tired)
ß	Double ss sound	die Straße (street)

SPECIAL COMBINATIONS

Just like in English, certain combinations of letters in German result in a changed pronunciation of the letters. Here are some of the most common ones you will encounter:

Letters	Pronunciation	Example
die Buchstaben	die Aussprache	das Beispiel
Er* (at the end of words only)	Uh	das Messer dass mess-uh (knife)
Er* (in the middle of words only)	Air	merken mair-ken (to notice)
Ch	Guttural "h" (as in Loch Ness)	der Koch dare kochh (the cook)
Tsch	English "ch" (as in church)	Deutsch doitch (German)
Sp	Shp (as in cash payment)	der Sport dare shport (sport)
St	Sht (similar to the end of washed)	Die Stadt dee shtadt (city)
Th	T	die Bibliothek dee bib-lee-oh-tek (library)
Pf	Pf (pronounce both the p and f)	die Pflaume dee pfl-ow-muh (plum)
Ee	Ay (as in say)	der Tee tay (tea)
Ie	Ee (as in feet)	Viel feel (much, many)
Ei	I (as in high)	Klein kline (small)
Äu	Oi (as in spoil)	Häufig hoif-eeg (common)
Eu	Oi (as in spoil)	Heute hoi-teh (today)
Au	Ow (as in cow)	Frau frow

(woman)

You have probably already found some of these sounds difficult to pronounce. There is one more letter combination which, although it doesn't change the sound of the letters, will still strike you as a bit odd. The "kn" combination, just like the "pf" combination you saw above, requires that you pronounce both letters. The "k" does not become silent as it does in English.

Example

das Beispiel

das Knie

the knee

This is pronounced as k-nee. But say it quickly so that it blends more or less into one syllable.

Youtube Activity! Look up some videos in German (preferably with German subtitles so you can see the words as well as hear them) and pay close attention to the pronunciation. It's ok if you don't understand what they are saying, the purpose of this exercise is to hear how German sounds.

DEFINITE AND INDEFINITE ARTICLES (THE, A, AN)

Where English only has one gender, German has three: male, female, and neuter. The definite articles are:

Male: **Der**

Female: **Die***

this is also used for all plural nouns

Neuter: **Das**

Unfortunately, German does not have any specific rules or ways of knowing which word is which gender (as you can with, say, Spanish). You just need to make sure that as you learn new vocabulary, you learn which article goes with it as well.

While there are no specific rules, there are some *clues* you can find in the nouns. Below are some of those clues:

Most singular nouns ending in “-e” are feminine.

Nouns that end in *-heit*, *-keit*, *-tät*, *-ung*, or *-schaft* will always be feminine.

Nouns ending in “-ie” are always feminine.

Nouns ending in “-ik” are almost always feminine (but there are some exceptions)

Nouns ending in “-in” are feminine when they refer to a female person (job titles, nationalities, etc).

Nouns ending in “-ei” are usually (but not always) feminine.

Days, months, and seasons are always masculine.

All forms of precipitation (Regen, Schnee, Nebel) are masculine.

Words with the “-ismus” ending are always masculine.

Singular nouns ending in “-ner” are masculine (these are usually male forms of occupations, nationalities, etc).

Most occupations are masculine (unless the feminine form is being used)

Most nouns ending in “-er” that refer to people are masculine (unless they refer to a specifically feminine person such as *die Schwester* or *die Mutter*)

Many alcoholic drinks are masculine.

Nouns ending in “-chen” or “-lein” are always neuter.

Infinitive verbs being used as nouns are always neuter.

Most of the elements on the periodic table are neuter (with some exceptions).

Colors being used as nouns are always neuter.

Young animals and people are usually neuter.

Most (but not all) nouns ending in “-o” are neuter

Most (but not all) nouns that begin with the prefix “ge-” are neuter

Most (but not all) words borrowed from foreign languages are neuter.

Most (but not all) words ending with “-um” are neuter.

There are a lot of exceptions to these, however, so always learn the article with the word.

To get you started, here are some examples of nouns with each article (all of these are singular):

Der	Die	Das
Der Mann	Die Frau	Das Kind
Der Hund	Die Katze	Das Baby
Der Raum	Die Küche	Das Haus
Der Flug	Die Station	Das Auto
Der Tisch	Die Straße	Das Krankenhaus

The indefinite articles (a/an in English) which correspond to each definite article above are:

Der: **Ein**

Die: **Eine**

Das: **Ein**

The usage of definite and indefinite articles is exactly the same as in English.

PRACTICE 1

For each word, provide the missing definite or indefinite article:

Der Mann, _____ Mann

_____ Frau, eine Frau

Das Kind, _____ Kind

_____ Kugelschreiber, ein Kugelschreiber

_____ Sport, ein Sport

Die Stadt, _____ Stadt

_____ Straße, eine Straße

_____ Krankenhaus, ein Krankenhaus

Der Raum, _____ Raum

Der Tee, _____ Tee

_____ Bibliothek, eine Bibliothek

_____ Messer, ein Messer

Die Pflaume, _____ Pflaume

_____ Baby, ein Baby

Die Zeitung, _____ Zeitung

You may have also noticed that the words are capitalized even though they are not at the beginning of the sentence or the proper name of something. This is because *all* nouns in German are always capitalized no matter where they are in the sentence or what they are referring to.

THE CASES

German has four cases: nominative, accusative, dative, and genitive. Cases change the article of the noun depending on what grammatical function it serves in the sentence. To very briefly sum them up:

Nominative is used when the noun is the *subject* of the sentence

Accusative is used when the noun is the *direct object* of the sentence

Dative is used when the noun is the *indirect object* of the sentence

Genitive is used when the noun modifies another noun (usually when it is the possessor of another noun)

This is quite a lot to deal with considering English really only uses nominative and accusative. The other two cases (or, noun functions) can be expressed in English but it is done through the use of prepositions and other syntactical cues.

In German, the case will change the article of the noun. Here is a chart for how **der**, **die**, and **das** change depending on the case:

Nominativ	Akkusativ	Dativ	Genitiv
Der	Den	Dem	Des
Die	Die	Der	Der
Das	Das	Dem	Des
Die (plural)	Die	Den	Der

PRACTICE 2

Reread the rules above about which case is used when. Then, fill in the missing articles for the nouns in the sentence below (make sure to use the right case!)

Der Wolf isst ____ Mann.

The wolf eats the man.

Die Frau schenkt ____ Kind ein Spielzeug.

The woman gives the child a toy.

Das ist das Auto ____ Mannes.

That is the man's car.

Der Hund spielt mit ____ Katze.

The dog plays with the cat.

Das Baby sitzt auf ____ Tisch.

The baby sits on the table.

Die Katze läuft durch ____ Raum.

The cat runs through the room.

Wo ist das Baby ____ Frau?

Where is the woman's baby?

Das Krankenhaus ist an ____ Straße.

The hospital is on the street.

Die Küche ist in ____ Haus.

The kitchen is in the house.

Das Auto fährt nach ____ Station.

The car drives to the station.

FORMING THE PLURAL

In English, just throw an “-s” or an “-es” at the end and you’ve got yourself a plural noun. In German, it’s not quite the same. There are few consistencies among plural nouns in the language. The one thing that they all have in common is that they take the article “die” when they become plural. This is the case all the time, no matter what the article for the singular noun form is.

Beyond that, though, there are five different ways to make a noun plural (more if you count the changes that occur depending on the cases you learned about above).

The “-e” ending

The majority of nouns that have just one syllable in the singular form will just add an “-e” to the end to form the plural. Sometimes the stem will change as well.

der Schuh becomes die Schuhe

das Haar becomes die Haare

die Maus becomes die Mäuse

The “-er” ending

Nouns that take an “-er” ending in their plural form are usually either masculine or neuter. There will sometimes also be a stem change to the word.

das Kind becomes die Kinder

der Mann becomes die Männer

das Buch becomes die Bücher

The “-n” or “-en” ending

Nouns in this category are made plural by adding an “-en” or “-n” to the end. If the singular form of the noun ends in a consonant or with an “au” or “ei”, they take the “-en” ending. If they end in a vowel (excepting “au” and “ei”), they just

take an “-n.” There are (of course) some exceptions such as *die Schwester* below which just takes an “-n” ending despite ending in a vowel.

die Frau becomes die Frauen.

der Mensch becomes die Menschen.

die Schwester becomes die Schwestern.

Furthermore, words that end in “-in” in the singular form will take the “-nen” ending in the plural form.

die Musikantin becomes die Musikantinnen.

The “-s” ending

These nouns are like English nouns. In fact, most of the words in this category are originally foreign words that the German language has adopted. To make them plural, simply add an “-s” to the end as you would in English.

die Kamera becomes die Kameras.

der Chef becomes die Chefs.

das Kino becomes die Kinos.

No change to the ending

Some words in German are the same whether singular or plural (except the article changes from its singular form to “die”). Typically, words ending in *-chen*, *-lein*, *-el*, *-en*, or *-er* do not change for the plural form. Sometimes, there will be a stem change in the plural, but for the most part, the word will remain completely the same.

das Mädchen becomes die Mädchen

der Garten becomes die Gärten

das Fenster becomes die Fenster

die Mutter becomes die Mütter

Because there are so many ways to pluralize a noun in German, it is best to just

learn the plural form along with the word when you first encounter it. When you make vocabulary flashcards, make sure that the flash card contains the following information for all nouns:

The definition

The singular article (der, die, das)

The plural form

The singular and plural form in all cases*

*There are some nouns which will change depending on the case it is in (usually for dative or genitive) and since there is no general rule for when this happens, it is good to include this information right from the beginning so that you will memorize those words in all their forms).

VERB CONJUGATION

VERBEN KONJUGATION

Most verbs in German have the “-en” ending with a few exceptions. Regular verbs are all conjugated the same way (irregular verbs are a whole other can of worms that we will, for the most part, ignore for the time being).

To see how to conjugate regular verbs, we will use the verb “gehen” meaning “to go”

Gehen

Ich (I)	gehe
Du (you [informal])	gehst
Er/Sie/Es (he/she/it)	geht
Ihr (you [plural, informal])	geht
Wir (we)	gehen
Sie/sie (You [formal]/they)	gehen

As you can see from the chart, to conjugate regular verbs, simply take off the “-en” ending and replace it with the appropriate conjugated ending.

PRACTICE 3

EXERCISE 1

The following is a list of regular verbs. On a separate sheet of paper, write down all six conjugations for each verb in this list.

spielen (to play)

sagen (to say)

kaufen (to buy)

kommen (to come)

lachen (to laugh)

lieben (to love)

leben (to live)

kochen (to cook)

machen (to do/to make)

lernen (to learn/study)

EXERCISE 2

Fill in the correct conjugated form of the verb (in parentheses) in each of the following sentences.

Ich _____ Deutsch. (lernen)
I study German.

Du _____ Fußball. (spielen)
You play soccer.

Er _____ seine Mutter. (lieben)
He loves his mother.

Ihr _____ zusammen. (lachen)

You (plural) laugh together.

Wir _____ Abendessen. (kochen)

We cook dinner.

Sie _____ neue Kleidung. (kaufen)

You (formal) buy new clothes.

Wann _____ sie? (kommen)

When are they coming?

Was _____ du? (sagen)

What are you saying?

Er _____ in Österreich. (leben)

He lives in Austria.

Was _____ Sie gern? (machen)

What do you (formal) like to do?

CHAPTER 1 VOCABULARY

Verben

essen
fahren
gehen
(sich)* interessieren
kaufen
kochen
kommen
lachen
laufen
leben
lernen
lieben
machen
merken
sagen
schenken

sein**
sitzen
spielen

Pronomen

ich
du
er
sie
es
wir
ihr
sie
Sie

Fragen

Wo
Wann
Was

“Der” Nomen

der Apfel
der Bruder
der Chef
der Dienstag
der Flug
der Freund
der Fußball
der Garten

Bedeutung

to eat
to drive
to go (to walk)
to be interested in
to buy
to cook
to come
to laugh
to run
to live
to learn, to study
to love
to do, to make
to notice, to realize
to say
to give (as a gift)

to be

to sit
to play

Bedeutung

I
You (informal)
He
She
It
We
You (informal, plural)
They
You (formal, both singular and plural)

Bedeutung

Where
When
What

Bedeutung

apple
brother
boss
Tuesday
flight
friend
soccer
garden

Adverbien

gern
heute
zusammen
Adjektive
ähnlich
bequem
gut
häufig
klein
müde
typisch
viel

Grußworte

auf Wiedersehen

“Das” Nomen

das Abendessen
das Auto
das Baby
das Beispiel
das Buch
das Deutsch
das Fenster
das Haar
das Haus
das Jahr
das Kind
das Kino
das Knie
das Krankenhaus
das Mädchen

das Messer

das Österreich

“Die” Nomen

die Aussprache
die Bibliothek
die Frau
die Hexe
die Kamera
die Katze
die Kleidung
die Küche
die Maus
die Musikantin

Bedeutung

gladly, with pleasure
today
together
Bedeutung
similar
comfortable
good
common, frequent
small, little
tired
typical
much, a lot

Bedeutung

goodbye

Bedeutung

dinner
car
baby
example
book
German
window
hair
house
year
child
cinema
knee
hospital
girl

knife

Austria

Bedeutung

pronunciation
library
woman
witch
camera
cat
clothing
kitchen
mouse
musician (female)

der Hund	dog	die Mutter	mother
der Koch	chef, cook (male)	die Pflaume	plum
der Kugelschreiber	pen	die Polizei	police
der Mann	man	die Schwester	sister
	person, human	die Stadt	city
der Mensch			
der Musiker	musician (male)	die Station	station
der Oper	opera	die Straße	street
der Raum	room, space	die Tankstelle	gas station
der Schuh	shoe	die Universität	university
der Sommer	summer	die Zeitung	newspaper
der Spielzeug	toy		
der Sport	sport		
der Tee	tea		
der Tisch	table		
der Vogel	bird		

*(sich) interessieren is a reflexive verb which you will be learning about in chapter 5 of this book.

**sein is an irregular verb which you will learn about in chapter 3 of this book.

REVIEW

Answer the following questions to test your memory of the rules you have learned in this chapter:

Describe the five different ways to pluralize a noun.

Name at least one clue for telling if a noun is *der*, *die*, or *das*.

When do you use the nominative case?

When do you use the accusative case?

When do you use the dative case?

When do you use the genitive?

CHAPTER 2: VOCABULARY FOUNDATIONS

Now that you have gotten yourself acquainted with the pronunciation and some of the basic grammar, you need to build up a foundation of some essential vocabulary that you will be using frequently throughout this book and as you speak with others in German. In this chapter, you will learn:

Numbers 1-100

Adjectives

Cognates

How to tell the time

How to ask the time

THE NUMBERS

You will notice that the numbers in German are constructed differently than they are in English. Where we would say *twenty-one*, German does it in reverse.

As an example: the German word for *twenty-one* is *einundzwanzig* (which literally translates to “one and twenty”). In older forms of English, the numbers were constructed in the same way they are in German today but with the influence of other languages such as Latin and French, the order flipped.

1	Eins	Aynz
2	Zwei	Tsvay
3	Drei	Dry
4	Vier	Fear
5	Fünf	Fooenf
6	Sechs	Zeks
7	Sieben	Zee-ben
8	Acht	Ahhkt
9	Neun	Noyn
10	Zehn	Tsayn
11	Elf	Elf
12	Zwölf	Tsvoulf
13	Dreizehn	Dry-Tsayn
14	Vierzehn	Fear-Tsayn
15	Fünfzehn	Fooenf-Tsayn
16	Sechzehn	Zek-Tsayn
17	Siebzehn	Zeeb-Tsayn
18	Achtzehn	Ahhkt-Tsayn
19	Neunzehn	Noyn-Tsayn
20	Zwanzig	Tsvan-seeg
21	Einundzwanzig	Ayn-oond-tsvan-tseeg
22	Zweiundzwanzig	Tsvay-oond-tsvan-tseeg
23	Dreiundzwanzig	Dry-oond-tsvan-tseeg
24	Vierundzwanzig	Fear-oond-tsvan-tseeg
25	Fünfundzwanzig	Fooenf-oond-tsvan-tseeg
26	Sechsendzwanzig	Zeks-oond-tsvan-tseeg
27	Siebenundzwanzig	Zee-ben-oond-tsvan-tseeg
28	Achtundzwanzig	Ahhkt-oond-tsvan-tseeg
29	Neunundzwanzig	Noyn-oond-tsvan-tseeg
30	Dreißig	Dry-tseeg
31	Einunddreißig	Ayn-oond-dry-tseeg
32	Zweiunddreißig	Tsvay-oond-dry-tseeg
33	Dreiunddreißig	Dry-oond-dry-tseeg
34	Vierunddreißig	Vier-oond-dry-tseeg
35	Fünfunddreißig	Fooenf-oond-dry-tseeg

36	Sechsunddreißig	Zeks-oond-dry-tseeg
37	Siebenunddreißig	Zee-ben-oond-dry-tseeg
38	Achtunddreißig	Ahhkt-oond-dry-tseeg
39	Neununddreißig	Noyn-oond-dry-tseeg
40	Vierzig	Fear-tseeg
41	Einundvierzig	Ayn-oond-fear-tseeg
42	Zweiundvierzig	Tsvay-oond-fear-tseeg
43	Dreiundvierzig	Dry-oond-fear-tseeg
44	Vierundvierzig	Fear-oond-fear-tseeg
45	Fünfundvierzig	Fooenf-oond-fear-tseeg
46	Sechsundevierzig	Zeks-oond-fear-tseeg
47	Siebenundvierzig	Zee-ben-oond-fear-tseeg
48	Achtundvierzig	Ahhkt-oond-fear-tseeg
49	Neunundvierzig	Noyn-oond-fear-tseeg
50	Fünfzig	Fooenf-tseeg
51	Einundfünfzig	Ayn-oond-fooenf-tseeg
52	Zweiundfünfzig	Tsvay-oond-fooenf-tseeg
53	Dreiundfünfzig	Dry-oond-fooenf-tseeg
54	Vierundfünfzig	Fear-oond-fooenf-tseeg
55	Fünfundfünfzig	Fooenf-oond-fooenf-tseeg
56	Sechsundfünfzig	Zeks-oond-fooenf-tseeg
57	Siebenundfünfzig	Zee-ben-oond-fooenf-tseeg
58	Achtundfünfzig	Ahhkt-oond-fooenf-tseeg
59	Neunundfünfzig	Noyn-oond-fooenf-tseeg
60	Sechzig	Zek-tseeg
61	Einundsechzig	Ayn-oond-zek-tseeg
62	Zweiundsechzig	Tsvay-oond-zek-tseeg
63	Dreiundsechzig	Dry-oond-zek-tseeg
64	Vierundsechzig	Fear-oond-zek-tseeg
65	Fünfundsechzig	Foeenf-oond-zek-tseeg
66	Sechsunsechzig	Zeks-oond-zek-tseeg
67	Siebenundsechzig	Zee-ben-oond-zek-tseeg
68	Achtundsechzig	Ahhkt-oond-zek-tseeg
69	Neunundsechzig	Noyn-oond-zek-tseeg
70	Siebzig	Zeeb-tseeg
71	Einundsiebzig	Ayn-oond-zeeb-tseeg
72	Zweundsiebzig	Tsvay-oond-zeeb-tseeg
73	Dreundsiebzig	Dry-oond-zeeb-tseeg
74	Vierundsiebzig	Fear-oond-zeeb-tseeg
75	Fünfundsiebzig	Fooenf-oond-zeeb-tseeg
76	Sechsunsiebzig	Zeks-oond-zeeb-tseeg
77	Siebenunsiebzig	Zee-ben-oond-zeeb-tseeg
78	Achtunsiebzig	Ahhkt-oond-zeeb-tseeg
79	Neununsiebzig	Noyn-oond-zeeb-tseeg
80	Achtzig	Ahhkt-tseeg
81	Einundachtzig	Ayn-oond-ahhkt-tseeg
82	Zweiundachtzig	Tsvay-oond-ahhkt-tseeg
83	Dreiundachtzig	Dry-oond-ahhkt-tseeg
84	Vierundachtzig	Fear-oond-ahhkt-tseeg
85	Fünfundachtzig	Fooenf-oond-ahhkt-tseeg

86	Sechsendachtzig	Zeks-oond-ahhkt-tseeg
87	Siebenundachtzig	Zee-ben-oond-ahhkt-tseeg
88	Achtundachtzig	Ahhkt-oond-ahhkt-tseeg
89	Neunundachtzig	Noyn-oond-ahhkt-tseeg
90	Neunzig	Noyn-tseeg
91	Einundneunzig	Ayn-oond-noyn-tseeg
92	Zweiundneunzig	Tsvay-oond-noyn-tseeg
93	Dreiundneunzig	Dry-oond-noyn-tseeg
94	Vierundneunzig	Fear-oond-noyn-tseeg
95	Fünfundneunzig	Foonf-oond-noyn-tseeg
96	Sechsendneunzig	Zeks-oond-noyn-tseeg
97	Siebenundneunzig	Zee-ben-oond-noyn-tseeg
98	Achtundneunzig	Ahhkt-oond-noyn-tseeg
99	Neunundneunzig	Noyn-oond-noyn-tseeg
100	Hundert	Hoon-Dirt

ADJECTIVES

Adjectives are extremely useful words in any language which allow us to provide more specific detail and description to our sentences. Building up a strong arsenal of adjectives is a great way to quickly expand the range of ideas you can express.

Adjectives change their endings depending on the gender of the noun they are describing. You will forget to do this a lot as you first begin speaking but it actually isn't so complicated relative to other grammatical concepts in German. Below you will find a list of some of the most useful adjectives in German together with their changed forms depending on the gender of the noun they describe.

Adjektiv	Bedeutung	Der	Die	Das
ganz	whole	ganzer	ganze	ganzes
groß	big, tall	großer	große	großes
gut	good	guter	gute	gutes
neu	new	neuer	neue	neues
erste	first	erster	erste	erstes
lang	long	langer	lange	langes
klein	small	kleiner	kleine	kleines
alt	old	alter	alte	altes
jung	young	junger	junge	junges
hoch	high	hoher	hohe	hohes
einfach	simple, just	einfacher	einfache	einfaches
letzte	last	letzter	letzte	letztes
gleich	like, similar	gleicher	gleiche	gleiches
schön	beautiful, great	schöner	schöne	schönes
eigen	own	eigener	eigene	eigenes
möglich	possible	möglicher	mögliche	mögliches
spät	late	später	späte	spätes
wichtig	important	wichtiger	wichtige	wichtiges
genau	exactly	genauer	genaue	genaues
weitere	additional	weiterer	weitere	weiteres
kurz	short	kurzer	kurze	kurzes
stark	strong	starker	starke	starkes
schwach	weak	schwacher	schwache	schwaches
richtig	correct	richtiger	richtige	richtiges
verschieden	diverse, different	verschiedener	verschiedene	verschiedenes
früh	early	früher	frühe	frühes
schlecht	bad	schlechter	schlechte	schlechtes

You may have noticed the pattern already from reading the list. Essentially, the

adjective takes on an ending which matches the gendered article of the noun:

Der : -er ending

Die : -e ending

Das: -es ending

This gets a little more complicated when you adjust for the different cases you learned about in the first chapter but that is not important at this early stage.

COGNATES

Cognates are what make learning any new language a little bit easier. These are words that are spelled and/or pronounced similarly in both languages and carry the same meaning.

There are countless examples of these for English speakers learning German because English is originally a Germanic language (that has since been dramatically altered by the heavy influence of Latin and French during the middle ages). If you have ever attempted to read Beowulf in the original Old English, you can see the strong connection between English and German.

Here is a list of some of the most useful cognates you will find in German:

akzeptieren	blond(e)
aktiv	das Buch
die Adresse	der Bus
der Agent	die Zigarette
der Alarm	der Kaffee
all/alle	der Tee
allergisch	kompliziert
Amerikaner(in)	das Konzert
April	der Kompromiss
das Baby	kosten
der Ball	kreativ
Balkon	tanzen
der Band	trinken
das Bett	existieren
das Bier	falsch
die Familie	das Eis
fantastisch	die Idee
das Fett	der Idiot
der Film	intelligent
finden	der Job
vorwärts	kaputt
frisch	lernen
die Hälfte	der Markt
das Hobby	die Natur
der Hunger	das Paar

Youtube Activity! Search for some videos about German-English cognates. Listen to (and repeat aloud) the differences in pronunciation. For extra practice, you can look for some videos about “false friends.” These are words that sound the same in English and German but do *not* mean the same thing.

CHECKPOINT

Before we move on to our first proper lesson (asking and telling time), test your knowledge so far. Do the test below first without looking above for the answers. Then, when you have done everything you can without referring to any other resources, you can go back through the earlier sections of this chapter and review the parts you couldn't recall.

Provide the correct definite *and* indefinite article for the following nouns:

____/____ Mann

____/____ Frau

____/____ Kind

____/____ Tisch

____/____ Auto

____/____ Küche

____/____ Raum

____/____ Straße

____/____ Krankenhaus

____/____ Zeitung

Now change those articles into the following cases:

____ Mann (akkusativ)

____ Frau (dativ)

____ Kind (genitiv)

____ Tisch (dativ)

____ Auto (akkusativ)

_____ Küche (dativ)
_____ Raum (nominativ)
_____ Straße (akkusativ)
_____ Krankenhaus (dativ)
_____ Zeitung (genitiv)

Now put them into their plural form and put the plural into accusative, dative, and genitive:

der Mann: _____

Akkusativ: _____

Dativ: _____

Genitiv: _____

die Frau: _____

Akkusativ: _____

Dativ: _____

Genitiv: _____

das Kind: _____

Akkusativ: _____

Dativ: _____

Genitiv: _____

der Tisch: _____

Akkusativ: _____

Dativ: _____

Genitiv: _____

das Auto: _____

Akkusativ: _____

Dativ: _____

Genitiv: _____

die Küche: _____

Akkusativ: _____

Dativ: _____

Genitiv: _____

der Raum: _____

Akkusativ: _____

Dativ: _____

Genitiv: _____

die Straße: _____

Akkusativ: _____

Dativ: _____

Genitiv: _____

das Krankenhaus: _____

Akkusativ: _____

Dativ: _____

Genitiv: _____

die Zeitung: _____

Akkusativ: _____

Dativ: _____

Genitiv: _____

Now conjugate the following verbs into the appropriate form and write the definition in English underneath:

Spielen (ich): _____

Sagen (du): _____

Kaufen (Sie) (*You*): _____

Kommen (wir): _____

Lachen (er): _____

Lieben (ihr): _____

Leben (ich): _____

Kochen (sie) (*She*): _____

Machen (du): _____

Lernen (ihr): _____

Write the German words for the following numbers:

1 _____
5 _____
37 _____
98 _____
3 _____

12 _____
77 _____
43 _____
100 _____
52 _____

Die Zeit

Time

Read the following short dialogues aloud a few times:

Dialog 1:

Person 1: Entschuldigen Sie bitte, wie viel Uhr ist es?

Dialogue 1:

Person 1: Excuse me, sir/ma'am, what time is it?

Person 2: Es ist 16 Uhr.

Person 2: It is 4 p.m.

Dialog 2:

Person 1: Entschuldigung, wie spät ist es?

Dialogue 2:

Person 1: Excuse me, what time is it?

Person 2: Es ist 14:30 Uhr.

Person 2: It is 2:30 p.m.

There are a few key differences when it comes to telling the time in German. In the first place, German speakers (and most Europeans, for that matter) tend to use the 24 hour clock, especially when it comes to appointments and scheduling (hence *16 Uhr* for 4 p.m. and *14:30 Uhr* for 2:30 p.m.). So you need to make sure you at least memorize the numbers for 0 through 24.

You can, however, also use the 12 hour clock and specify which time of day you mean. German does not use *a.m.* or *p.m.* Instead, you would say:

8 Uhr in der Früh

8 a.m. (literally, 8 o'clock in the morning)

2 Uhr nachmittags

2 p.m. (literally, 2 o'clock in the afternoon)

Practice 1

Üben

Draw hands on the clock to match the times indicated below.

17:30 Uhr 00:00 Uhr 22:15 Uhr

Practice asking for the time and answering aloud (with a friend or by yourself).

CHAPTER 2 VOCABULARY

Verben

akzeptieren
existieren
finden
kosten
lernen
tanzen
trinken

Bedeutung

to accept
to exist
to find
to cost
to learn, to study
to dance
to drink

Adverbien

vorwärts
“Die” Nomen
die Adresse
die Amerikanerin
die Familie
die Hälfte
die Idee

Bedeutung

forward
Bedeutung
address
American (female)
family
half
idea

A

Adjektiven

aktiv
all, alle
allergisch
alt
blond
eigen
einfach
erste
früh
falsch
fantastisch
frisch
ganz
genau
gleich
groß
gut
hoch
intelligent
jung
kaputt
klein
kompliziert
kreativ
kurz
lang
letzte
möglich
neu
richtig
schlecht
schön

Bedeutung

active
all, every
allergic
old
blond
own
simple, just
first
early
false, wrong
fantastic
fresh
whole, entire
exactly
like, similar
great, large
good
high
intelligent
young
broken, kaput
small, little
complicated
creative
short
long
last, latter
possible
new
correct, right
bad
beautiful, handsome,
pleasant

die Natur

nature

die Zigarette

cigarette

“Der” Nomen

der Agent
der Alarm
der Amerikaner
der Ball
der Balkon
der Bus
der Film
der Idiot
der Job
der Kaffee
der Kompromiss
der Markt

Bedeutung

agent
alarm, alert
American (male)
ball
balcony
bus
film, movie
idiot
job
coffee
compromise
market

“Das” Nomen

das Bett
das Bier
das Eis
das Fett
das Konzert
das Paar

Bedeutung

bed
beer
ice, ice cream
fat
concert
pair, couple, few

die Monaten

der Januar
der Februar
der März
der April
der Mai
der Juni
der Juli
der August
der September
der Oktober
der November

Bedeutung

January
February
March
April
May
June
July
August
September
October
November

schwach	weak	der Dezember	December
spät	late	die Tage der Woche	Bedeutung
stark	strong	der Sonntag	Sunday
verschieden	different, diverse	der Montag	Monday
weiter	further	der Dienstag	Tuesday
wichtig	important	der Mittwoch	Wednesday
die Tageszeit	Bedeutung	der Donnerstag	Thursday
der Morgen	morning (also: tomorrow)	der Freitag	Friday
der Mittag	noon	der Samstag	Saturday
der Nachmittag	afternoon	Fragen	Bedeutung
der Abend	evening	Wie	How
die Nacht	night	Wie viel	How much
		Grußworte	Bedeutung
		Entschuldigen Sie, bitte.	excuse me, please/

REVIEW

Count as high as you can without looking at the list of numbers.

List as many cognates as you can remember without looking at the list.

Ask what time it is (either form of the question).

Answer with the current time.

Ask what time it is again (using the form you did not use the first time).

Answer with the opposite of the current time (i.e.- if it is 10 a.m., answer with 10 p.m.)

CHAPTER 3: INTRODUCE YOURSELF

In this chapter, you will learn the basics for introducing yourself to someone and having a small, polite conversation. First, however, you need to learn the difference between *Du*, *ihr*, and *Sie*. In English, we just have one word for “you” and we use it to address anybody whether it is the president of the United States or our pet goldfish.

HEY, YOU!

In German, on the other hand, there is a different form of “you” which depends on two things:

Formal or informal conversation

How many people you are addressing

First, let’s break down the formal and informal singular.

Du is the informal “you” in German. You use it with family members, friends, children, pets, and so on. *Sie* is the formal version. You would use this to address your boss, a stranger, someone older than you, and anyone with a high ranking office (such as a mayor, congressman, senator, and so on). This is also the form you use when doing a job interview.

The rules for this are not so strict as they once were. Often, you will hear younger people addressing other young people they have never met with *Du* rather than *Sie* (which you would expect when they are addressing strangers).

Furthermore, because you are a non-native speaker (a fact native speakers will pick up as soon as they hear your accent), people will be more understanding if you use the incorrect form.

So don’t stress yourself out about this formal vs. informal you. Simplify this by asking yourself two questions before addressing a person:

Do I know this person?

If yes: go to the second question.

If no: use “Sie”

Do I want to show extra respect to this person?

If yes: use “Sie”

If no: use “Du”

Now, for the second factor in choosing the correct “you”: how many people you are addressing. There are two plural versions of “you” in German (an informal and a formal). The informal *plural* you is *ihr*. The formal *plural* you is *Sie*.

Yes, the formal plural “you” is the same as the formal singular “you” which makes things slightly easier. Whether it is one person or a group with whom you need to be formal, it’s going to be “Sie”.

Ihr, on the other hand, is more like “you guys” or “y’all” and is only used among friends, family, and so on. You are likely going to have a hard time remembering to use this at first since there is no English equivalent. So try to make sure you give some extra time to practicing this form and committing it to your memory.

To Be *Sein*

Quickly, before we jump into the lesson for this chapter, take a look at how you conjugate *sein*. It is an irregular verb but one that you will be using a lot so you should take the time to learn the special conjugations.

Sein

Ich	bin
Du	bist
Er/Sie/Es	ist
Wir	sind
Ihr	seid
Sie/sie	sind/sind

Greetings die Grußworte

das Wort

Guten Morgen
Guten Tag
Guten Abend
Hallo!
Servus!
Wie geht es Ihnen?
Wie geht es dir?
Wie geht es euch?
Mir geht es gut
Mir geht es ok
Mir geht es schlecht
Und Ihnen/dir/euch?

auf Wiedersehen!
Tchüß!

Bedeutung

good morning
good afternoon
good evening
hello
hi, hello, goodbye
How are you? (formal singular and plural)
How are you? (informal singular)
How are you? (informal plural)
I am well.
I am ok.
I am not doing well.
And you? (formal singular and plural, informal singular, informal plural)
Goodbye!
Bye!

Bis später!
Bis dann!
Bis morgen!
Wir sehen uns!
Gute Nacht!

until later!
until then!
until tomorrow!
See you!
Goodnight!

START TALKING!

With the vocabulary list above, you can get creative with your greetings. First read through the following dialogues aloud. Then, in the practice section, you will be writing your own dialogues!

Formal:

Frau Schmidt: Guten Morgen, Herr Mauer!

Herr Mauer: Guten Morgen, Frau Schmidt. Wie geht es Ihnen?

Frau Schmidt: Mir geht es sehr gut! Und Ihnen?

Herr Mauer: Mir geht es auch gut! Auf Wiedersehen, Frau Schmidt.

Frau Schmidt: Bis morgen, Herr Mauer.

Informal:

Josef: Servus, Angelika! Wie geht's?

Angelika: Servus! Mir geht's ok. Und dir?

Josef: Mir geht's gut. Bis später, Angelika!

Angelika: Wir sehen uns, Josef!

In the formal dialogue, you encountered two unfamiliar words. If you have not looked up their definitions already, here they are:

sehr: very

auch: also

In the informal dialogue, you saw „wie geht's“ and „mir geht's“. These are abbreviated forms of the longer phrases that you have in the vocabulary list above. In informal situations, it is very common to abbreviate in this way. It's the equivalent of saying „how's it going?“ instead of „how are you?“

In fact, if you were to translate „wie geht es dir“ literally, word for word, it would be: „how goes it with you?“ It sounds strange in English but this is grammatically correct in German.

Practice

Üben

On a separate sheet of paper, create two dialogues of your own using the vocabulary you learned above. Make sure that one is formal and one is informal. You should also make sure that each speaker in the dialogue speaks at least two times. To challenge yourself further, attempt to use the informal plural you!

Introductions

Vorstellen

Here are some basic phrases you will use to introduce yourself and to ask people about themselves:

die Wörter

Wie heißen Sie?

Wie heißt Du?

Ich heiße...

Wie alt sind Sie?

Wie alt bist Du?

Ich bin...Jahre alt.

Wann treffen wir uns?

Um wie viel Uhr treffen wir uns?

Passt.

Das passt mir nicht.

Wie ist das Wetter?

Es regnet.

Es ist sonnig.

Mir ist kalt.

Mir ist heiß.

Bedeutung

What is your name? (formal singular and plural)

What is your name? (formal singular)

My name is...

(literally: I am called...)

How old are you? (formal singular and plural)

How old are you? (informal singular)

I am...years old.

*When are we meeting?**

At what time are we meeting?

Ok. (That works.)

That doesn't work for me.

How is the weather?

It is raining.

It is sunny.

I am cold.

I am hot.

*In German, there is only one form of the present tense: present simple. Therefore, to literally translate this sentence, you would say “when we meet?” because there is no present continuous (i.e.- are meeting) as there is in English. With that in mind, avoid the mistake of trying to form the present continuous in German by saying things like “wir sind treffen” as this will make you sound pretty silly to a native speaker.

DIALOGUE

Here are two sample dialogues using the vocabulary you have learned so far:

Formal:

Herr Mauer: *Guten Tag!*

Frau Schmidt: *Guten Tag! Wie heißen Sie?*

Herr Mauer: *Ich heiße Herr Mauer, und Sie?*

Frau Schmidt: *Angenehm! Ich heiße Frau Schmidt.*

Herr Mauer: *Freut mich! Wie ist das Wetter?*

Frau Schmidt: *Schlecht. Es regnet.*

Herr Mauer: *Das ist schlecht. Mir ist kalt.*

Frau Schmidt: *Mir auch. Auf Wiedersehen!*

Informal:

Angelika: Hallo, Josef! Wie geht's?

Josef: Servus, Angelika! Mir geht's gut. Und dir?

Angelika: Mir geht's ok aber mir ist heiß!

Josef: Ja, es ist sehr sonnig.

Angelika: Um wie viel Uhr treffen wir uns morgen?

Josef: In der Abend. Um 18 Uhr. Passt das dir gut?

Angelika: Nein, das passt mir nicht gut. Treffen wir uns um 19 Uhr?

Josef: Ja, passt. Bis morgen!

There are a few new words in these dialogues. Here are the translations:

Angenehm: pleasure to meet you!

Freut mich: pleased to meet you!

aber: but

Um: in this case, it means “at”

In der:* in the

**in this case, “der” is not the masculine article but the accusative form of “die” which you learned about in chapter 1.*

CHAPTER 3 VOCABULARY

Verben

heißen	<i>to be called</i>
passen	<i>to fit, to suit, to pass</i>
regnen	<i>to rain</i>
sehen	<i>to see</i>
sein	<i>to be</i>
(sich) treffen	<i>to meet</i>

Adverbien

auch	<i>also</i>
dann	<i>then</i>
morgen	<i>tomorrow</i>
nicht	<i>not</i>

Grußworte

Angenehm	<i>Pleasure to meet you</i>
Freut mich.	<i>Pleased to meet you</i>
Gute Nacht	<i>Goodnight</i>
Guten Abend	<i>Good evening</i>
Guten Morgen	<i>Good morning</i>
Guten Tag	<i>Good afternoon</i>
Hallo	<i>Hello</i>
Mir geht es gut	<i>I am well.</i>
Mir geht es ok	<i>I am ok.</i>
Mir geht es schlecht	<i>I am not well.</i>
Servus	<i>hi, bye</i>
Tschüß	<i>bye</i>

“Das” Nomen

das Wetter

Adjektiven

heiß	<i>hot</i>
kalt	<i>cold</i>
sonnig	<i>sunny</i>

Fragen Wörter

Um wie viel Uhr?	<i>At what time?</i>
Wie geht es dir?	<i>How are you?</i> <i>(informal singular)</i>
Wie geht es Ihnen?	<i>How are you?</i> <i>(formal singular and plural)</i>
Wie geht es ihr?	<i>How are you?</i> <i>(informal plural)</i>
Wie alt sind Sie?	<i>How old are you? (formal singular and plural)</i>
Wie alt bist du?	<i>How old are you? (informal, singular)</i>

Sonstige Wörter

aber	<i>but</i>
bis	<i>until</i>
um	<i>at</i>
in der	<i>in the</i>
ja	<i>yes</i>
nein	<i>no</i>

REVIEW

Create two dialogues (one formal, one informal) using your new vocabulary (and vocabulary from the previous two chapters as well, if you like). Make sure each speaker has at least 4 lines.

Identify at least 3 people in your life with whom you would use the formal *Sie* if you were to speak to them in German.

Identify at least 3 people in your life with whom you would use the informal *Du* if you were to speak to them in German.

Write down all 6 conjugations of the verb *sein*. Try to do it from memory first and then fill in the ones you missed after.

CHAPTER 4: TELL US ABOUT YOURSELF

Now that you have a foundation in grammar and vocabulary and you have learned to introduce yourself, it's time to talk in a little more detail about yourself.

You can use many of the adjectives, verbs and other words you have learned in the previous three chapters. So, before moving on with this lesson, review the vocabulary lists (or the flashcards you have made) in order to refresh your memory.

For the grammar lesson in this section, we will focus on prepositions. You already encountered your

There is no direct, one-to-one translation of prepositions from English to German. Many will have overlapping meanings that can make learning them a challenge.

Furthermore, the noun being modified by the preposition (i.e.- the table in the sentence “the book is on *the table*”) will need to be in the accusative, dative, or genitive case depending on the preposition used. With some, you will always use accusative and others, always dative. This will make things a little easier. However, there are some with which can be used with multiple cases. For those, you will have to learn how to tell when to use which.

A BASIC GUIDE TO PREPOSITIONS

There are 4 main categories of prepositions:

Those that always take dative

Those that always take accusative, and;

Those that take both depending on how it is being used
(*wechselpräpositionen*)

Those take the genitive case

Here is a simple chart so that you can have an easy reference to all of them:

Dativ Präpositionen

ab	<i>from, off, away, starting</i>
außer	<i>except, besides, excluding</i>
zu	<i>to, toward, at, for, in, on</i>
nach	<i>toward, after, to, past, on, following, of</i>
bei	<i>for, by, at, on, with, upon, during, near</i>
von	<i>by, of, from, off, out of</i>
aus	<i>from, out, of, made of</i>
mit	<i>with, by, involving, at</i>
seit	<i>since</i>
gegenüber	<i>toward, versus, across from, opposite to</i>

Akkusativ Präpositionen

bis	<i>until, to, by, before</i>
durch	<i>through, across, by, via, due to, by means of</i>
für	<i>for, per</i>
ohne	<i>without</i>
gegen	<i>against, toward, about, versus</i>
um	<i>about, around, at</i>

Wechsel Präpositionen

in	<i>in, into, at, on, within</i>
an	<i>at, on, by, to, in</i>
auf	<i>on, onto, to, at, up, in</i>
neben	<i>beside, alongside, nearby</i>
hinter	<i>behind, afterward, at the back of</i>
über	<i>about, above, across, over</i>
unter	<i>among, below</i>
vor	<i>before, ago, of, from, off</i>
zwischen	<i>among, between</i>

GENITIV PRÄPOSITIONEN

anstatt/ statt	instead of
außerhalb	outside of
innerhalb	inside of
trotz	despite, in spite of
während	during, in the course of
wegen	because of

Take a look at the genitive prepositions again. Notice that all of the English translations use the word “of.” This will make identifying them easier. Here are some examples of common phrases you might read or hear using genitive prepositions:

Während der Woche studieren wir.

During the week we study.

Or: In the course of the week we study.

Trotz des Wetters fliegen wir nach Deutschland.

In spite of the weather we are flying to Germany.

For those that are always dative or always accusative, you will simply need to memorize them. Make flashcards which indicate their meaning and the case they use. You will get some exercises shortly to further practice them. So don't worry if it feels like an information overload right now. It just takes practice and memorization.

The *wechselprepositionen* aren't as difficult as you might think. There is one simple rule for determining whether you use the dative or accusative case with them.

The Wo oder wohin? Rule

Just ask yourself, is the preposition describing where something *is* (Wo?) or is it describing where something is *going* (Wohin?)

If it is the first, use dative. If it is the latter, use accusative. Now, you just need to memorize which ones are the *wechselpräpositionen* and each time you use them, ask yourself:

Wo oder wohin?

Here is an example. Let's use the *wechselpräpositionen* "auf":

Wo: Das Buch liegt auf dem Tisch.

Where: The book *is laying* on the table.

Wohin: Ich lege das Buch auf den Tisch.

Where to: *I put* the book onto the table.

In the first instance, the book is already on the table. Therefore, dative is being used for table (*dem Tisch*). In the second case, the book is in the process of being put (literally: laid) onto the table. Therefore, because the sentence describes something currently in progress, accusative is used.

PRACTICE 1

ÜBEN

In the following sentences, fill in the correct article (accusative, dative, or genitive) for the noun being modified by the preposition.

Das Buch liegt auf _____ Tisch.

Ich spreche mit _____ Mann.

Ich laufe durch _____ Park.

Ich gehe zu _____ Krankenhaus.

Der Hund sitzt vor _____ Haus.

Wir arbeiten bis _____ Abend.

Trotz _____ Wetters spielen wir Fußball.

Die Lampe hängt über _____ Tisch.

Ich gehe in _____ Schule.

Während _____ Konzerts trinke ich Bier.

Now let's build some new vocabulary. Here are some words you can use to describe your family and where you are from.

Meine Familie	Bedeutung	Woher?	Bedeutung
die Mutter	<i>mother</i>	Woher kommst du?	<i>Where are you from? (informal singular)</i>
der Vater	<i>father</i>	Woher kommen Sie?	<i>Where are you from? (formal singular and plural)</i>
die Schwester	<i>sister</i>	Ich komme aus...	<i>I come from...</i>
der Bruder	<i>brother</i>	Er kommt aus...	<i>He comes from...</i>
das Baby	<i>baby</i>	Amerika	<i>America</i>
das Kind	<i>child</i>	die Vereinigten Staaten	<i>the United States</i>
die Tante	<i>aunt</i>	Kanada	<i>Canada</i>
der Onkel	<i>uncle</i>	das Vereinigte Königreich	<i>the United Kingdom</i>
die Großmutter	<i>grandmother</i>	Irland	<i>Ireland</i>
der Großvater	<i>grandfather</i>	Australien	<i>Australia</i>
die Oma	<i>grandma</i>	Südafrika	<i>South Africa</i>

der Opa	<i>grandpa</i>	Mexico	<i>Mexico</i>
die Cousine	<i>cousin (female)</i>	Deutschland	<i>Germany</i>
der Cousin	<i>cousin (male)</i>	Österreich	<i>Austria</i>
die Nichte	<i>niece</i>	die Schweiz	<i>Switzerland</i>
der Neffe	<i>nephew</i>	Belgien	<i>Belgium</i>
die Urgroßmutter	<i>great grandmother</i>	Frankreich	<i>France</i>
der Urgroßvater	<i>great grandfather</i>	Dänemark	<i>Denmark</i>
die Geschwister	<i>siblings</i>	Schweden	<i>Sweden</i>
der Schwiegervater	<i>father in law</i>	Spanien	<i>Spain</i>
die Schwiegermutter	<i>mother in law</i>	der Nord	<i>north</i>
die Schwägerin	<i>sister in law</i>	der Süd	<i>south</i>
der Schwager	<i>brother in law</i>	der Ost	<i>east</i>
die Halbschwester	<i>half sister</i>	der West	<i>west</i>
der Halbbruder	<i>half brother</i>	Wo lebst du?	<i>Where do you live? (informal singular)</i>
die Adoptivschwester	<i>adopted sister</i>	Wo leben Sie?	<i>Where do you live? (formal singular and plural)</i>
der Adoptivbruder	<i>adopted brother</i>	Ich lebe in...	<i>I live in...</i>
Mutti	<i>mom</i>	Er lebt in...	<i>He lives in...</i>
Vati	<i>dad</i>	Das Hotel	<i>Hotel</i>
die Eltern	<i>parents</i>	links	<i>left</i>
		rechts	<i>right</i>
		geradeaus	<i>straight ahead</i>
		Wo wohnst du?	<i>Where do you live? (informal singular)</i>
		Wo wohnen Sie?	<i>Where do you live? (formal singular and plural)</i>
		Ich wohne in...	<i>I live in...</i>
		Er wohnt in...	<i>He lives in...</i>
		das Haus	<i>house</i>
		die Wohnung	<i>apartment</i>
		die Stadt	<i>city</i>
		das Dorf	<i>small town</i>

In this list, you saw two ways to ask “where do you live?” In German, there are two different words depending on what specifically you are asking. *Leben* refers to your permanent living situation. You might currently be spending a few months living in a different location but in the long term, you live in one permanent location. *Wohnen* refers to more short term living situations as well as specific types of housing. Therefore, you typically use *leben* for countries, states, and cities and *wohnen* for the type of housing (house, apartment, etc.) as well as temporary residences. For example, one might say:

Ich lebe in Berlin. Dort wohne ich in einer Wohnung.

I live in Berlin. I live in an apartment there.

or:

Ich lebe in Amerika aber jetzt wohne ich in der Schweiz.

(Normally) I live in America but now I am living in Switzerland.

PRACTICE 2

Üben

Read this short paragraph in which a person describes his family. Then answer the questions below.



Servus! Ich heie Michael und ich lebe in sterreich. Das ist meine Familie. Wir kommen aus Deutschland. Meine Eltern (vor der Reste der Familie) leben in Deutschland. Meine Mutter heit Anna und mein Vater heit Thomas. Hinter meiner Eltern stehe ich und meine vier Geschwister (von links nach rechts: Susanna, Jakob, Esther, und Daniel). Wir haben alle rote Haare. Ich habe viele Nichten und Neffen. Susanna ist die alteste Schwester. Sie und meine Schwgerin wohnen in einem groes Haus in der Schweiz. Jakob, mein junger Bruder, wohnen in einer Wohnung in dem Vereingtes Knigreich.

FRAGEN

Woher kommt Michael und seine Familie?

Wo leben die Eltern von Michael?

Wie viele Geschwister hat Michael?

Wie heißen die Geschwister?

Wie heißt die Mutter?

Wie heißt der Vater?

Wo wohnt Susanna?

Wo wohnt Jakob?

Wo steht Michael auf dem Foto?

CHAPTER 4 VOCABULARY

Meine Familie

die Mutter	<i>mother</i>
der Vater	<i>father</i>
die Schwester	<i>sister</i>
der Bruder	<i>brother</i>
das Baby	<i>baby</i>
das Kind	<i>child</i>
die Tante	<i>aunt</i>
der Onkel	<i>uncle</i>
die Großmutter	<i>grandmother</i>
der Großvater	<i>grandfather</i>
die Oma	<i>grandma</i>
der Opa	<i>grandpa</i>
die Cousine	<i>cousin (female)</i>
der Cousin	<i>cousin (male)</i>
die Nichte	<i>niece</i>
der Neffe	<i>nephew</i>
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der Urgroßvater	<i>great grandfather</i>
die Geschwister	<i>siblings</i>
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die Schwägerin	<i>sister in law</i>
der Schwager	<i>brother in law</i>
die Halbschwester	<i>half sister</i>
der Halbbruder	<i>half brother</i>
die Adoptivschwester	<i>adopted sister</i>
der Adoptivbruder	<i>adopted brother</i>
Mutti	<i>mom</i>
Vati	<i>dad</i>
die Eltern	<i>parents</i>

Woher?

Woher kommst du?	<i>Where are you from? (informal singular)</i>
Woher kommen Sie?	<i>Where are you from? (formal singular and plural)</i>
Ich komme aus...	<i>I come from...</i>
Er kommt aus...	<i>He comes from...</i>
Amerika	<i>America</i>
die Vereinigten Staaten	<i>the United States</i>
Kanada	<i>Canada</i>
das Vereinigte Königreich	<i>the United Kingdom</i>
Irland	<i>Ireland</i>
Australien	<i>Australia</i>
Südafrika	<i>South Africa</i>
Mexico	<i>Mexico</i>
Deutschland	<i>Germany</i>
Österreich	<i>Austria</i>
die Schweiz	<i>Switzerland</i>
Belgien	<i>Belgium</i>
Frankreich	<i>France</i>
Dänemark	<i>Denmark</i>
Schweden	<i>Sweden</i>
Spanien	<i>Spain</i>
der Nord	<i>north</i>
der Süd	<i>south</i>
der Ost	<i>east</i>
der West	<i>west</i>
Wo lebst du?	<i>Where do you live? (informal singular)</i>
Wo leben Sie?	<i>Where do you live? (formal singular and plural)</i>
Ich lebe in...	<i>I live in...</i>
Er lebt in...	<i>He lives in...</i>
Das Hotel	<i>Hotel</i>
links	<i>left</i>
rechts	<i>right</i>
geradeaus	<i>straight ahead</i>

Wo wohnst du?	<i>Where do you live? (informal singular)</i>
Wo wohnen Sie?	<i>Where do you live? (formal singular and plural)</i>
Ich wohne in...	<i>I live in...</i>
Er wohnt in...	<i>He lives in...</i>
das Haus	<i>house</i>
die Wohnung	<i>apartment</i>
die Stadt	<i>city</i>
das Dorf	<i>small town</i>

Dativ Präpositionen

ab	<i>from, off, away, starting</i>
außer	<i>except, besides, excluding</i>
zu	<i>to, toward, at, for, in, on</i>
nach	<i>toward, after, to, past, on, following, of</i>
bei	<i>for, by, at, on, with, upon, during, near</i>
von	<i>by, of, from, off, out of</i>
aus	<i>from, out, of, made of</i>
mit	<i>with, by, involving, at</i>
seit	<i>since</i>
gegenüber	<i>toward, versus, across from, opposite to</i>

Akkusativ Präpositionen

bis	<i>until, to, by, before</i>
durch	<i>through, across, by, via, due to, by means of</i>
für	<i>for, per</i>
ohne	<i>without</i>
gegen	<i>against, toward, about, versus</i>
um	<i>about, around, at</i>

Wechsel Präpositionen

in	<i>in, into, at, on, within</i>
an	<i>at, on, by, to, in</i>
auf	<i>on, onto, to, at, up, in</i>
neben	<i>beside, alongside, nearby</i>
hinter	<i>behind, afterward, at the back of</i>
über	<i>about, above, across, over</i>
unter	<i>among, below</i>
vor	<i>before, ago, of, from, off</i>
zwischen	<i>among, between</i>

Genitiv Präpositionen

anstatt/ statt	<i>instead of</i>
außerhalb	<i>outside of</i>
innerhalb	<i>inside of</i>
trotz	<i>despite, in spite of</i>
während	<i>during, in the course of</i>
wegen	<i>because of</i>

Sonstige Wörter

die älteste	<i>oldest</i>
arbeiten	<i>to work</i>
fliegen	<i>to fly</i>
das Foto	<i>photograph</i>
dort	<i>(over) there</i>
haben	<i>to have</i>
hängen	<i>to hang</i>
jetzt	<i>now</i>
die Leute	<i>people</i>
liegen	<i>to lay</i>
rote Haare	<i>red hair</i>
sitzen	<i>to sit</i>
stehen	<i>to stand</i>
und	<i>and</i>
woher?	<i>from where?</i>
wohin?	<i>to where?</i>

Bedeutung

REVIEW

Which prepositions are *wechselpräpositionen*?

When do you use dative with a *wechselpräposition*?

When do you use accusative with a *wechselpräposition*?

Which prepositions always use the genitive case?

Which prepositions always use the dative case?

Which prepositions always use the accusative case?

Write a short paragraph about you and your family. Include their names, ages, and where they live. Try to use as much of the chapter 4 vocabulary as you can.

Imagine you are in Vienna, staying at a hotel next to Stephansdom (the red star marked 1 on the map below). Using the map, describe how you would walk from Heldenplatz (the red star marked 2 on the map below) back to your hotel. Remember to use your prepositions!



CHAPTER 5: IN YOUR FREE TIME

In this chapter, you will learn to talk about your hobbies and what you do on your free time. To do this, you will need to learn about reflexive verbs (another grammatical concept that is more or less absent in English). Reflexive verbs refer to those things that we do to ourselves (or to another person) such as bathing, brushing our teeth, and getting ourselves ready. There are also some reflexive verbs which are used for talking about the things you like or in which you are interested in.

The two main reflexive verbs you will need for this chapter are:

(sich) gefallen: to like

(sich) interessieren: to be interested in

What characterizes a reflexive verb is that it is always attached to a pronoun (*sich*) which is either dative or accusative.

(sich) gefallen is a dative reflexive verb meaning that you will use dative pronouns when you conjugate it. For example, to say that you like to eat, you would write:

Gefällt mir essen.

mir is the dative pronoun for me and *gefällt* is the third person singular for please. Literally, this sentence would translate as “it pleases me to eat.” If you want to say that you like multiple things, you need to use the third person plural:

Gefallen mir essen, tanzen, und Fußball spielen.

As you can see, *mir* stays the same in both cases because you are still referring to yourself.

To say that you are interested in films, you would write:

Ich interessiere mich für Filme.

Here, you will notice some differences with the first verb. In this case, the verb is conjugated in the first person. *You* are the one taking interest and the person being interested is also you. You are literally saying “I interest myself in films.”

This verb, in addition to being reflexive, is *always* attached to the preposition *für*. To state that you do *not* like something, simply add *nicht* after the reflexive pronoun:

Gefällt mir nicht tanzen.

Ich interessiere mich nicht für Fußball.

PRACTICE 1

Write two sentences about things you like and two sentences about things you are interested in.

To talk about other people, make sure to change the reflexive pronoun you are using to match the person you are talking about. And in the case of (*sich*) *interessieren*, you will conjugate the verb to match the person as well.

Refer to the vocabulary list for this chapter to see more reflexive verbs and some examples of hobbies, activities, and interests you might like.

Before you start talking about your interests, let's look at how to contradict someone in German if they say you don't like something that you actually do like.

In addition to *ja* and *nein*, German has a third response, *doch* which means "yes" but only in response to negative statements. For example, if your friend said:

Du interessierst dich nicht für Bücher.

If you actually are interested in books, you would respond:

Doch! Ich interessiere mich für Bücher.

You will practice these new skills in the review section below.

Youtube Activity! Search for TV shows or music videos in German. You can find many episodes of popular American shows like *The Simpsons* dubbed into German. These are a great tool for familiarizing yourself with the language. Also look for German speaking bands that you like and listen to their songs. The catchier the song, the better because if the lyrics gets stuck in your head, it will help you learn the language!

Reflexiven Verben

Akkusativ

(sich) interessieren für

Bedeutung

to be interested in

Die Hobbys

laufen

spazieren

Bedeutung

to run

to go for a walk

(sich) freuen auf
(sich) waschen
(sich) duschen
(sich) beeilen
(sich) bewerben
(sich) kümmern um
(sich) wundern über
(sich) ärgern über
Dativ

(sich) gefallen
(sich) denken
(sich) vorstellen
(sich) die Zähne bürsten
(sich) die Haare bürsten
(sich) Sorgen machen

Sonstige Wörter

Lieblings + nomen
die Beste
die Schlimmste
die böse Leute
die freundliche Leute

to look forward to
to wash
to shower
to hurry
to apply (for a job)
to care for, to take care of
to be surprised
to be annoyed with

to like
to think, to consider
to imagine
to brush one's teeth
to brush one's hair
to be worried about

favorite + noun
(i.e. – Lieblingsfilm)
the best
the worst
rude people
friendly people

Film sehen
Musik hören
reisen
Sport machen
sich mit Freunden treffen
tanzen
Bücher lesen
kochen
freiwillig dienen

Ski fahren
snowboarden
surfen
wandern
zelten
Sprachen lernen
die Literatur

der Kunstfilm

der Dokumentarfilm

der Horrorfilm
die Liebeskomödie
die Klassiker
die Rockmusik
die Popmusik

der Hiphop

der Blues

das Metal

die Musikgruppe

to watch movies
to listen to music
to travel
to do sports
to meet with friends
to dance
to read books
to cook
to volunteer

to ski
to snowboard
to surf
to hike
to camp
to study languages
literature

art film

documentary

horror film
romantic comedy
classics
rock
pop

hip hop

blues

metal

band

REVIEW

Write a short paragraph describing your likes and interests. Make sure to include at least two negative statements (about things you don't like or that upset you.)

Interview a friend or think about a close friend (or family member) and write a short paragraph describing *their* likes and interests. You should also include two negative statements as well.

Write a short paragraph describing your morning routine, using the reflexive verbs in your vocabulary list as well as normal verbs.

Below are a series of statements using reflexive verbs. For each sentence, write the exact opposite. Use *doch* when applicable. The first one has been done for you as an example.

Ich interessiere mich nicht für Horrorfilme.

*Doch! Du interessierst dich für Horrorfilme.*_____

Gefällt dir tanzen.

Jakob ärgert sich nicht über Kunstfilme.

Ich mache mir Sorgen über reisen.

Sie beeilen sich nicht.

Deine Lieblingsfilme sind Liebeskomödien.

Jakob gefällt ihn Literatur.

Meine Lieblingshobbys sind zelten und wandern.

CHAPTER 6: MAKING SMALL TALK

You might have noticed that in the review for chapter 5, some answers used *nicht* and some answers used *kein*. There are two different ways to negate a sentence depending on what exactly is being negated. Here are the rules for when to use which.

Use *nicht*...

- before a preposition
- unless the preposition is at the beginning of the phrase, then *nicht* drops to the end.
- when the verb is at the end of the sentence
- when the entire sentence must be made negative
- before an adjective
- before nouns that have definite articles

Use *kein*...

- before nouns with indefinite articles
- before nouns with *no* articles

*note: *kein* is used like an indefinite article. That means you have to change the ending to match the gender of the noun it is being used with.

PRACTICE 1

Fill in the blank with *nicht* or *kein* for each of the following sentences. Refer to the rules above when necessary.

Ich interessiere mich _____ nicht für Literatur.

Du machst dir _____ Sorgen.

Er denkt ihn tanzen _____ schön.

Warum ärgerst du _____ über Popmusik?

Gefällt mir _____ Horrorfilme.

Meine Lieblingsmusik ist _____ Rockmusik.

Now that you are familiar with that, it is time to take a bit of a leap into a tougher subject: the past tense. There are multiple forms of the past tense in German. In this chapter, we will just be concerned with the *Perfekt* tense. This is the one that is used most often while speaking.

It is easier in the sense that all past tense conjugations of the verb will be the same. However, using it requires changing the structure of your sentence. Let's take a look at an example.

Present Tense: Ich fahre mit dem Auto.

Past Perfect: Ich bin mit dem Auto gefahren.

The first thing to notice is that the verb *fahren* has shifted to the end of the sentence and now has the prefix *ge-*. You also now have a new verb, *sein* (ich bin).

To form the past perfect for verbs that talk about motion or states of transition (driving, walking, moving, coming, going, growing up, etc.) use the present tense form of *sein*, move the verb to the end of the sentence and put it in its past perfect form. Many verbs just require adding the prefix *ge-* to the front but there are many different variants so always be sure to learn the past perfect form when you learn a new verb.

Fortunately, there is just one past perfect form for each verb. So, whether you were driving, your friend was driving, or a guy named Fred was driving, *fahren* will always be conjugated as *gefahren*. You only need to change the conjugation of *sein* (which you already learned earlier in this book).

Using *sein* with the past perfect is not so common, however. Most verbs do not indicate motion or states of transition (sitting, sleeping, eating, talking, etc.). For these verbs, you use *haben*. Here is an example.

Present Tense: Ich esse Abendessen.

Past Perfect: Ich habe Abendessen gegessen.

As you can see, the past perfect form of the verb underwent the same process as *fahren* did earlier. It moved to the end and it took on the *ge-* prefix. Because *essen* begins with a vowel, the extra *g* was needed for the prefix.

Rather than *sein*, however, this verb uses the present tense of *haben* (to have). It is very similar to the English sentence „I have eaten dinner“ except that the structure is different.

With the past perfect, the verb will always be at the very end of the sentence. No matter how long the sentence is, the verb will stick to the end. Check out this sentence as an example:

Ich habe Mittags an der Schule zu viel Suppe, Kartoffeln, und Brot gegessen.
Today at school, I ate too much soup, potatoes, and bread.

No matter how many additional details you wish to include in your sentence, you will put all of them between before the past perfect form of the verb.

Let's practice the past tense now. For this first practice, we will just use words that use *haben*.

For your reference, here is how you conjugate *haben* in the present tense:

Haben

to have

ich **habe**

du **hast**

er/sie/es **hat**
wir **haben**
ihr **habt**
Sie/sie **haben**

PRACTICE 2

Rewrite the following sentences using past perfect.

Wir essen Frühstück.

Du spielst Fußball.

Ich sehe einen Dokumentarfilm.

Er wohnt in einer Wohnung.

Ihr lebt in der Schweiz.

CHAPTER 6 VOCABULARY

Verben

aufstehen	<i>to get up (literally: to stand up)</i>
aufwachen	<i>to wake up</i>
(sich) ausruhen	<i>to rest, recuperate</i>
bräunen	<i>to tan</i>
denken	<i>to think</i>
einkaufen	<i>to shop</i>
einschlafen	<i>to fall asleep</i>
eislaufen	<i>to ice skate</i>
(sich) entspannen	<i>to chill</i>
essen	<i>to eat</i>
fotografieren	<i>to photograph</i>
klettern	<i>to climb</i>
eine Pause machen	<i>to take a break</i>
schlafen	<i>to sleep</i>
schreiben	<i>to write</i>
schwimmen	<i>to swim</i>
singen	<i>to sing</i>
die Videospiele spielen	<i>to play video games</i>
springen	<i>to jump</i>
sorgen	<i>to worry</i>
tanzen	<i>to dance</i>

Bedeutung

Nomen

drinnen	<i>indoors</i>
draußen	<i>outdoors</i>
das Fahrrad	<i>bicycle</i>
das Felsenklettern	<i>rock climbing</i>
das Foto	<i>photo, picture</i>
die Fotografie	<i>photography</i>
das Frühstück	<i>breakfast</i>
das Gedicht	<i>poem</i>
das Lebensmittel	<i>grocery</i>
das Lied	<i>song</i>
das Mittagessen	<i>lunch</i>
die Mitternacht	<i>midnight</i>
der Mond	<i>moon</i>
der Park	<i>park</i>
die Pause	<i>break</i>
der Roman	<i>novel</i>
die Schlittschuhe	<i>ice skates</i>
die Sonne	<i>sun</i>
die Sorge	<i>worry</i>
das Videospiel	<i>video game</i>
die Wochenende	<i>weekend</i>
der Zug	<i>train</i>

Bedeutung

REVIEW

Describe the steps for rewriting a present tense sentence into past perfect.

Which two present tense verbs are used with the past perfect?

Write a list of all the past perfect forms of each verb in the chapter 6 vocabulary list above (include the appropriate present tense verb).

In which cases do you use *kein* to negate a statement?

Was hast du letzte Woche gemacht?

Write a short paragraph describing what you did last weekend. Feel free to make stuff up if you like.

CHAPTER 7: ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES

To talk about your travel plans or plan a trip, you will need to learn how to talk about the future. Fortunately, the future tense (unlike the past tense) is very simple in German. To talk about something that will happen in the future, you use the verb “werden”. It has a few irregular conjugations so let’s start by taking a look at how you conjugate it for each person:

On its own, “werden” means “to become.” However, when used in combination with another verb, it means “going to” or “will.” Let’s look at an example:

Ich werde Frühstück essen.

I am going to eat breakfast.

As with the past tense, when you add “werden” to the sentence, the second verb gets pushed to the very end and takes its present infinitive form no matter who is doing the action. You only conjugate “werden” to match the person doing the action.

Now try it yourself.

PRACTICE 1

The following sentences are written in past tense. Rewrite them in future tense.

Ich habe Frühstück gegessen.

Du bist durch den Park gelaufen.

Er hat spät geschlafen.

Wir haben zu viel Bier getrunken.

Ihr seid zuhause geblieben.

Sie haben Lebensmittel gekauft.

Ich bin nach Deutschland geflogen.

Er hat die ganze Nacht getanzt.

Wir sind früh aufgestanden.

Ihr habt eine Pause gemacht.

In the vocabulary list at the end of this chapter, there are some new words to help you talk about your travel plans. Skip ahead and read through them. Use these as a reference to complete this next exercise:

PRACTICE 2

Read this short text aloud (practicing your pronunciation) about someone's plan to visit Berlin and then answer the questions afterward.

Ich heie Mario und ich mchte whrend des Sommers reisen. Ich werde morgen einen Flug buchen. Ich werde im Juli nach Berlin fliegen. Dort werde ich zwei Wochen bleiben. Julia, eine Freundin von mir, wird mit mir reisen. Aber sie wird nur eine Woche in Berlin bleiben. Dann wird sie nach Frankreich mit dem Auto fahren. Dort wird sie ihre Familie besuchen.

Wohin wird Mario reisen?

Wann wird Mario fliegen?

Mit wem wird Mario reisen?

Was wird Julia in Frankreich machen?

Wie lang wird Mario in Berlin bleiben?

Wie wird Julia nach Frankreich gehen?

Wie lang wird Julia in Berlin bleiben?

CHAPTER 7 VOCABULARY

Verben	Bedeutung	Nomen	Bedeutung
(sich) mit Einheimischen anfreunden	<i>to make friends with the locals</i>	die Architektur	<i>architecture</i>
besichtigen*	<i>to visit</i>	der Bahnhof	<i>train station</i>
besuchen*	<i>to visit</i>	der Berg	<i>mountain</i>
bleiben	<i>to stay, remain</i>	die Dienstreise	<i>business trip</i>
einen Flug buchen	<i>to book a flight</i>	die Einheimische	<i>locals</i>
fliegen	<i>to fly</i>	die Ferien	<i>holidays</i>
eine Fahrkarte kaufen	<i>to buy a ticket (train or bus)</i>	der Flughafen	<i>airport</i>
möchten**	<i>to want</i>	das Flugzeug	<i>airplane</i>
reisen	<i>to travel</i>	das Meer	<i>sea</i>
geschäftlich verreisen	<i>to travel for business</i>	das Museum	<i>museum</i>
werden	<i>to become</i> (+ <i>Verb</i> = <i>going to, will</i>)	die Oper	<i>opera</i>
		das Restaurant	<i>restaurant</i>
		die Ruinen	<i>ruins</i>
		die Sehenswürdigkeit	<i>tourist site</i>
		die Stadtführung	<i>city tour</i>
		der Strand	<i>beach</i>
		der Urlaub	<i>vacation</i>
		der Zug	<i>train</i>
		Sonstige Wörter	
		Traum-	<i>(prefix) dream</i>
		Lieblings-	<i>(prefix) favorite</i>

**besichtigen* and *besuchen* both mean to visit but they are used slightly differently. *Besichtigen* is used to talk about superficial visits, such as seeing a site or going to a museum. These are short and usually involve just looking around. *Besuchen*, on the other hand, refers to more involved visits such as visiting friends or family. It is also used when you want to say you are visiting a city or country. This sort of visit involves more interaction, you do more than just look around. You talk, sit down for a meal, hang out, etc.

***möchten* is another word for „to want” in addition to *wollen* which you learned earlier. The difference between the two is that where *wollen* simply means “to want”, *möchten* technically means „would like.” It is a more polite way to say that you want something. Technically, it is a contraction of two verbs: *würden* (meaning „would”) and *mögen* (meaning „to like”). It may not look like a contraction of these two words but, somehow, it is.

REVIEW

DER TRAUMURLAUB

Plan your dream vacation. Where will you go? When will you go? With whom will you go? How will you get there? What will you do while you are there? Make sure to use the future tense that you practiced in this chapter.

CHAPTER 8: ON THE STREET

Once you have arrived, you will need to navigate the streets. You already learned some basic terms for directions in chapter 4. In this chapter, you will learn more vocabulary and learn how to ask for (and understand) directions.

First, let's look at some of the common road signs you will see in Germany, Austria, Switzerland, and much of Europe actually. They differ from the road signs in the United States and might seem a little bewildering at first.



One Way Street



Stay to the Right



Bus Stop



Hospital



Shared Pedestrian/Cyclists Lane



Separate Lanes for Pedestrians and Cyclists



End of Pedestrian Zone



Residential Area



No Vehicles of any Kind Allowed



Motorcycles and Cars Only



No Bicycles Allowed



Weight Limit



Width Limit



Height Limit



Length Limit



No Entry



No Stopping



No Parking



Park on Sidewalk



Maximum Speed Limit



Minimum Speed Limit



End of Minimum Speed
Limit Zone



No Passing Allowed



Toll Road



Dead End



Caution: Skiers Crossing



Follow Alternate Route



Stop Here on Red



Toilet

Before going on, refer back to the chapter 4 vocabulary in order to refresh your memory of the key vocabulary you'll need for asking and giving directions. You should also review the prepositions as these will come up a lot in directions.

Many of the prepositions you learned are often combined with the definite article that follows them. As you will hear and see these contractions a lot, it is important to get familiar with them. Keep in mind however, that these are all contractions of prepositions and *definite* articles. You do not use contractions with *indefinite* articles. Furthermore, use the full form rather than the contraction when you want stress the word (just as you would say do *not* rather than don't in English to stress the word "not").

	das	dem	der
an	ans	am	
auf	aufs		
bei		beim	
in	ins	im	
hinter	hinters		
über	übers		
unter	unters		
von		vom	
vor	vors		
zu		zum	zur

The contractions that are in bold are the most common that you will hear and see. These should be your priority when you are working on memorizing them.

In addition to combining prepositions with definite articles, they can be combined with question words as well as turned into adverbs. To form the question, add the prefix *wo-* to the beginning of the preposition. If it begins with a vowel, add an *r* to form the prefix *wor-*. To make a preposition into an adverb, you simply add the prefix *da-* in front of it. If the preposition begins with a vowel, add an *r* to form the prefix *dar-*.

Here is a list of prepositional questions with their corresponding prepositional adverbs:

Wobei	Whereby, whereas, where	dabei	thereby, present, close by
Wodurch	How, by what means, in what way	dadurch	thus, thereby, in this way
Wofür	Wherefore, for what	dafür	therefore, for that
Wogegen	against what	dagegen	against that
Woher	from where, wherefrom, wherefore, whence	daher	from there, therefore, hence
Wohin	to where, whereto, wither	dahin	to there, thither
Womit	how, with what	damit	with that, therewith
Wonach	after what, whereupon, of what	danach	after that, thereupon, of that
Worauf	whereupon, whereat, on top of what	darauf	thereupon, thereat, on top of
Woraus	whence, what from	daraus	hence, thereof, out of that
Worin	wherein, in what	darin	therein, in that
Worüber	what about, above what	darüber	about that, above that
Worunter	under what	darunter	under that
Wovon	from what, whereof	davon	from that, thereof
Wovor	what of, in front of what	davor	of that, in front of that

Wozu	wherefore, why, whereto, to what end	dazu	thereto, to that, to this end, in addition to that
Worum	what about behind what	darum dahinter	about that behind that
Wohinter			

You are simply using the question “where” and the adverb “there” to build new words with the prepositions. This is similar to older forms of English which used phrases like “wither” and “thither.” We have retained some of these older words like “therefore” and “thereby” as well as “hence” (which remains despite the loss of both the adverb and the preposition, henn + genitive s, from which it was constructed).

These will come in handy when asking for directions as well as for constructing sentences with multiple clauses (which you will learn to do in the next chapter).

Here are some common phrases which will be helpful in asking for directions.

Wie komme ich zur....?

Wohin fährt dieser Straßenbahn?

Wo ist die...?

Wohinter steht das...?

Welche Richtung fährt dieses Bus?

Ich habe Sie nicht verstanden. Können Sie das bitte wiederholen?

To give directions, use these phrases:

Biegen Sie links hier ab.

Sie müssen dahinter rechts abbiegen.

Dieser Straßenbahn fährt dahin.

Dieses Bus fährt in Richtung Hauptbahnhof.

Der Bahnhof steht auf der linken/rechten Seite.

PRACTICE 1

Following is a list of responses. Write a possible question that could have preceded the response. The first one has been done for you.

Die Oper steht dahinter.

Wohinter steht die Oper?

Der Bus fährt in Richtung Friedhof.

Sie müssen nach dem Park links abbiegen. Der Museum steht gerade dahinter.

Ich gehe dahin.

Biegen Sie links an Johanstrasse ab. Die Oper steht auf der rechten Seite.

CHAPTER 8 VOCABULARY

Verben	Bedeutung	Nomen	Bedeutung
abbiegen	to turn	die Bushaltestelle	bus stop
aussteigen	to exit, to disembark (literally: to out-step)	der Friedhof	cemetery
einsteigen	to enter, to board (literally: to in-step)	die Gasse	street (literally: lane, alley. Usually smaller streets)
umsteigen	to change to another train/bus/tram/etc.	der Hauptbahnhof	main train station
verstehen	to understand	die Richtung	direction, way
wiederholen	to repeat	die Seite	side (also: page in a book)
		die Straße	street (Usually larger streets)
		der Straßenbahn	tram, streetcar, cable car (literally: street train)
Sonstige Wörter			
bald	soon	Adverbien	
bitte	please, your welcome	dabei	thereby, present, close by
danke	thank you	dadurch	thus, thereby, in this way
genau	exactly	dafür	therefore, for that
gerade	presently, just now, straight, directly	dagegen	against that
geradeaus	straight ahead	daher	from there, therefore, hence
auf der rechten/linken Seite	on the right side/on the left side	dahin	to there, thither
Ich bin unterwegs.	I'm on my way.	damit	with that, therewith
Sind wir bald da?	Are we there yet?	danach	after that, thereupon, of that
		darauf	thereupon, thereat, on top of
		daraus	hence, thereof, out of that
		darüber	about that, above that
		davon	from that, thereof
		davor	of that, in front of that
		dazu	thereto, to that, to this end, in addition to that
		darum	about that
		dahinter	behind that

REVIEW

Rewrite each of the following sentences using the appropriate prepositional adverb. The first one has been done for you as an example.

Ich bin allergisch gegen Erdnüsse.

Ich bin allergisch dagegen.

Die Oper steht hinter dem Theater.

Der Theater steht vor der Oper.

Das Buch liegt unter dem Tisch.

Die Leute kommen aus dem Museum.

Ich gehe gerade ins Kino.

Die Lampe hängt über dem Boden.

Ich fahre durch die Stadt.

Ich werde nach dem Film zurück zuhause gehen.

Ich werde das Buch auf den Tisch legen.

What do each of the following road signs mean?

1.



2.



3.



4.



5.



6.



7.



8.



9.



10.



11.



12.



CHAPTER 9: IN THE RESTAURANT

During your trip, you will be visiting restaurants frequently. So it will be good to learn how to place an order, ask for the check, and learn some common vocabulary words for food and drinks.

First, however, let's look at how to form sentences with multiple clauses in German. A clause which can stand on its own as a complete sentence (known as an independent clause in English) is the *Hauptsatz* in German which literally means "main phrase" or "main clause." In German, you can add a dependent clause or *Nebensatz* to any part of a *Hauptsatz*. It can go in front, at the end, or even mashed right into the middle of it. Below are 3 examples to show you each case. The underlined portion of the sentence is the *Nebensatz* that is being added on to the *Hauptsatz*.

Dass das Wetter so schlecht ist, kann ich nicht glauben.

Ich möchte der Wein, der aus Frankreich kommt.

Ich habe das Buch, das Stephen King geschrieben hat, gelesen.

There are some consistencies no matter where the *Nebensatz* is located. The conjugated verb is always moved to the end of the phrase no matter what other verbs are also present. Notice in the the third example that if the *Nebensatz* were to be written as a *Hauptsatz* it would be in a different order:

Stephen King hat das Buch geschrieben.

Also note that in the same example, if you were to cut the *Nebensatz* entirely, it would read Ich habe das Buch gelesen. The *Nebensatz* is in the middle here because the noun which it is modifying (das Buch) is in the middle. If we were to move the position of das Buch, we would move the *Nebensatz* to go along with it.

This same thing is happening with the second example. In these cases, think of the *Nebensatz* as a very detailed adjective describing the noun in the sentence. In the first example, on the other hand, something else is happening. Here we have the word dass which can be translated in English as "that" but only in reference to things that are spoken, thought, and so on. That is, you do not use dass to refer to a specific object. You would not point at a table and say dass Tisch to say

“that table.”

In the first example above, you are saying “I can’t believe that the weather is so bad.” In German, you can put the phrase “that the weather is so bad” in the beginning in order to add further emphasis to it.

This is not an option in English which is, in many ways, stricter in regard to sentence structure than German. In German, as long as you make sure that the verbs are in their correct positions, just about everything else in the sentence can be moved around wherever you want in order to emphasize the part of the sentence that you want to emphasize.

Note also in the first example that the Hauptsatz on the end is slightly reordered. Rather than Ich kann, it is written as kann ich. This reversal happens anytime the Hauptsatz is at the end. If we were to write this same sentence in another way (more similar to the English structure) it would like this:

Ich kann nicht glauben, dass das Wetter so schlecht ist.

When you want to say that you think, believe, read, heard, or said something, you will always use a Nebensatz that begins with dass. This is because you are saying “I think that...” or “I heard that...” and so on. Let’s practice.

PRACTICE 1

Translate the following sentences into English. Remember to use the *Hauptsatz* + *Nebensatz* structure that you have just learned. Use the vocabulary list at the end of this chapter to help you with any words you do not know. The first one has been done for you.

I find that the film is very good.

Ich finde, dass der Film sehr gut ist.

I said that I am hungry.

I heard that the book is boring.

I can't believe that this summer is so cold.

I would like the Beer that is from Germany.

There are some key phrases that you will say or hear often in a restaurant. Read this brief dialogue aloud between a waiter and customer:

Kellner: Willkommen im Restaurant! Was hätten Sie gern?

Speisender: Ich hätte gern ein Wiener Schnitzel.

Speisenderin: Ich nehme ein griechischer Salat bitte.

Kellner: Gerne. Und möchten Sie auch was zum trinken?

Speisender: Ja, ich nehme ein großes Bier.

Speisenderin: und ich hätte ein Glas Wein.

.....

Speisender: Entschuldigung! Zahlen, bitte.

Kellner: Gerne! Zahlen Sie zusammen oder getrennt?

Speisender: Zusammen, bitte.

Kellner: Dann die Rechnung beträgt 20 Euro.

Speisender: 22 Euro, bitte. Die Rest ist für Sie.

Kellner: Danke schön!

Youtube Activity! Search the phrase “im Restaurant” in youtube. Listen to a few different dialogues. There will be multiple different options on there so you will have a choice. Listen for the words you have learned in this chapter as well as some new ones. If possible, add subtitles to help you learn the new words.

CHAPTER 9 VOCABULARY

Verben

aussehen (Du siehst aus, als ob...)	<i>to appear, to look like (you look as if...)</i>
bestellen	<i>to order</i>
betragen	<i>to amount to, to come to</i>
finden	<i>to find, to think</i>
glauben	<i>to think, to believe</i>
hätten	<i>would like to have</i>
hören	<i>to hear, to listen</i>
nehmen	<i>to take</i>
rechnen	<i>to calculate</i>
sagen	<i>to say</i>
schmecken (Das schmeckt gut.)	<i>to taste (That tastes good.)</i>
servieren	<i>to serve</i>
zahlen	<i>to pay</i>

Sonstige Wörter

durstig	<i>thirsty</i>
gern	<i>with pleasure</i>
getrennt	<i>separate</i>
griechisch	<i>Greek</i>
Guten Appetit!	<i>Bon Appetit</i>
hungrig	<i>hungry</i>
kalt	<i>cold</i>
langweilig	<i>boring</i>
Mahlzeit!	<i>Enjoy your meal!</i>
nochmal	<i>another, again</i>
oder	<i>or</i>
Prost!	<i>cheers!</i>
satt	<i>full, satisfied</i>
sehr	<i>very</i>
voll	<i>full, entire, whole</i>
vom Fass	<i>on tap (as in beer)</i>
zusammen	<i>together</i>

Nomen

	<i>Bedeutung</i>
der Alkohol	<i>alcohol</i>
der Apfel	<i>apple</i>
die Banane	<i>banana</i>
das Bier	<i>beer</i>
das Brot	<i>bread</i>
der Champignon	<i>mushroom</i>
der Durst	<i>thirst</i>
das Eis	<i>ice cream</i>
Frankreich	<i>France</i>
die Gabel	<i>fork</i>
die Gemüse	<i>vegetables</i>
das Getränk	<i>beverage</i>
das Glas	<i>glass</i>
die Hauptspeise	<i>main course</i>
die heiße Schokolade	<i>hot chocolate</i>
der Hunger	<i>hunger</i>
der Kaffee	<i>coffee</i>
das Keks	<i>cookie</i>
der Kellner/die Kellnerin	<i>waiter/waitress</i>
der Löffel	<i>spoon</i>
das Messer	<i>knife</i>
das Mixgetränk	<i>cocktail</i>
die Nachspeise	<i>dessert</i>
die Nudeln	<i>pasta, noodles</i>
das Obst	<i>fruit</i>
die Rechnung	<i>bill</i>
die Rest	<i>rest, remaining</i>

der Reis	<i>rice</i>
das Restaurant	<i>restaurant</i>
der Rotwein	<i>red wine</i>
der Saft	<i>juice</i>
der Salat	<i>salad</i>
die Serviette	<i>napkin</i>
die Suppe	<i>soup</i>
die Süßigkeit	<i>candy</i>
die Tagessuppe	<i>soup of the day</i>
die Tasse	<i>cup</i>
der Teller	<i>plate</i>
die Torte	<i>cake</i>
die Vorspeise	<i>appetizer</i>
das Wasser	<i>water</i>
der Wein	<i>wine</i>
der Weißwein	<i>white wine</i>
das Wiener Schnitzel	<i>Wienerschnitzel</i>

REVIEW

Imagine you are at a restaurant with a friend in Germany. Write a short dialogue like the one you read earlier in this chapter. Use the vocabulary list to help you.

Translate the following sentences into German. Pay attention to the *Hauptsatz* + *Nebensatz* structure.

The book that is called *The Sun Also Rises* is on the table.

The restaurant that I like is behind the museum.

The film that I don't like is in theaters.

The wine that I ordered is bad.

The beer that I ordered is on tap.

I think the wine is from France.

I said that I would like to have the wienerschnitzel.

I heard that you serve good salads.

I think the restaurant is behind that.

The soup of the day that we have today tastes very good.

You look as if you are hungry.

They look as if they are thirsty.

We look as if we are full.

ANSWER GUIDE

CHAPTER 1

PRACTICE 1

ein

die

ein

der

der

eine

die

das

ein

ein

die

das

eine

das

eine

PRACTICE 2

den

dem

des

der

dem

den

der

der

dem

der

PRACTICE 3

EXERCISE 1

spielen

ich spiele

du spielst

er/sie/es spielt

wir spielen

ihr spielt

Sie/sie spielen

sagen

ich sage

du sagst

er/sie/es sagt

wir sagen

ihr sagt

Sie/sie sagen

kaufen

ich kaufe

du kaufst

er/sie/es kauft

wir kaufen

ihr kauft

Sie/sie kaufen

kommen

ich komme

du kommst

er/sie/es kommt

wir kommen

ihr kommt

Sie/sie kommen

lachen

ich lache

du lachst

er/sie/es lacht

wir lachen

ihr lacht

Sie/sie lachen

lieben

ich liebe

du liebst

er/sie/es liebt

wir lieben

ihr liebt

Sie/sie lieben

leben

ich lebe

du lebst

er/sie/es lebt

wir leben

ihr lebt

Sie/sie leben

kochen

ich koche

du kochst

er/sie/es kocht

wir kochen

ihr kocht

Sie/sie kochen

machen

ich mache

du machst

er/sie/es macht

wir machen

ihr macht

Sie/sie machen

lernen

ich lerne

du lernst

er/sie/es lernt

wir lernen

ihr lernt

Sie/sie lernen

EXERCISE 2

Ich *lerne* Deutsch.

Du *spielst* Fußball.

Er *liebt* seine Mutter.

Ihr *lacht* zusammen.

Wir *kochen* Abendessen

Sie *kaufen* neue Kleidung.

Wann *kommen* sie?

Was *sagst* du?

Er *lebt* in Österreich.

Was *machen* Sie gern?

REVIEW

Add -e, -er, -en, -n, -s, or do not add anything.

Refer to the list of clues in chapter 1.

Use the nominative case when the noun is the subject of the sentence.

Use the accusative case when the noun is the direct object of the sentence.

Use the dative case when the noun is the indirect object of the sentence.

Use the genitive case when the noun is modified by another noun (i.e.- when it is possessed by another noun)

CHAPTER 2

CHECKPOINT

der/ein Mann

die/eine Frau

das/ein Kind

der/ein Tisch

das/ein Auto

die/eine Küche

der/ein Raum

die/eine Straße

das/ein Krankenhaus

die/eine Zeitung

den Mann

der Frau

des Kinds

dem Tisch

das Auto

der Küche

der Raum

die Straße

dem Krankenhaus

der Zeitung

die Männer

die Männer

den Männer

der Männer

die Frauen

die Frauen

den Frauen

der Frauen

die Kinder

die Kinder

den Kinder

der Kinder

die Tische

die Tische

den Tische

der Tische

die Autos

die Autos

den Autos

der Autos

die Küchen

die Küchen

den Küchen

der Küchen

die Räume

die Räume

den Räume

der Räume

die Straßen

die Straßen

den Straßen

der Straßen

die Krankenhäuser

die Krankenhäuser

den Krankenhäuser

der Krankenhäuser

die Zeitungen

die Zeitungen

den Zeitungen

der Zeitungen

ich spiele

to play

du sagst

to say

Sie kaufen

to buy

wir kommen

to come

er lacht

to laugh

ihr liebt

to love

ich lebe

to live

sie kocht

to cook

du machst

to do, to make

ihr lernt

to learn, to study

Eins

Fünf

Siebenunddreißig

Achtundneunzig

Drei

Zwölf

Siebenundsiebzig

Dreiundvierzig

Hundert

Zweiundfünfzig

PRACTICE 1

17:30 Uhr 00:00 Uhr 22:15 Uhr

CHAPTER 3

REVIEW

1 through 3 are done on your own.

4. sein

ich bin

du bist

er/sie/ist ist

wir sind

ihr seid

Sie/sie sind

CHAPTER 4

PRACTICE 1

Das Buch liegt auf **dem** Tisch.

Ich spreche mit **dem** Mann.

Ich laufe durch **den** Park.

Ich gehe zu **dem** Krankenhaus

Der Hund sitzt vor **dem** Haus.

Wir arbeiten bis **den** Abend.

Trotz **des** Wetters spielen wir Fußball.

Die Lampe hängt über **den** Tisch.

Ich gehe in **die** Schule.

Während **des** Konzerts trinke ich Bier.

PRACTICE 2

Michael und seine Familie kommen aus Deutschland.

Die Eltern von Michael leben in Deutschland.

Michael hat vier Geschwister.

Die Geschwister heißen Susanna, Jakob, Esther, und Daniel.

Die Mutter heißt Anna.

Der Vater heißt Thomas.

Susanna wohnt in der Schweiz.

Jakob wohnt in dem Vereinigten Königreich.

Michael steht hinter den Eltern.

REVIEW

in, an, auf, neben, hinter, über, unter, vor, zwischen

Use the dative case when the preposition refers to something that is stationary.

Use the accusative case when the preposition refers to something that is moving or in the process of transition.

anstatt, statt, außerhalb, innerhalb, trotz, während, wegen

ab, außer, zu, nach, bei, von, aus, mit, seit, gegenüber

bis, durch, für, ohne, gegen, um

Do this one on your own.

Sample:

Ich gehe **über den** Heldenplatz gerade **nach der** Kohlmarkt **Straße**.
Dann gehe ich rechts **an die** Graben **Straße**. Dann gehe ich links **zu dem** Stephansdom.

CHAPTER 5

REVIEW

Do exercises 1 through 3 on your own.

Doch! Du interessierst dich für Horrofilme.

Nein. Gefällt mir nicht tanzen.

Doch! Jakob ärgert sich über Kunstfilme.

Nein. Du machst dir kein Sorgen über reisen.

Doch! Sie beeilen sich.

Nein. Meine Lieblingsfilme sind keine Liebeskomödien.

Nein. Jakob gefällt ihn nicht Literatur.

Nein. Meine Lieblingshobbys sind nicht zelten und wandern.

CHAPTER 6

PRACTICE 1

Ich interessiere mich **nicht** für Literatur.

Du machst dir **kein** Sorgen.

Er denkt ihn tanzen **nicht** schön.

Warum ärgerst du **nicht** über Popmusik?

Gefällt mir **keine** Horrorfilme.

Meine Lieblingsmusik ist **keine** Rockmusik.

PRACTICE 2

Wir **haben** Frühstück **gegessen**.

Du **hast** Fußball **gespielt**.

Ich **habe** einen Dokumentarfilm **gesehen**.

Er **hat** in einer Wohnung **gewohnt**.

Ihr **habt** in der Schweiz **gelebt**.

REVIEW

Put the verb into its past perfect form, move it to the end of the sentence, add the appropriately conjugated form of *sein* or *haben*.

sein and haben

Past perfect tenses:

sein aufgestanden

sein aufgewacht

haben (sich) ausgeruht

haben gebräunt
haben gedacht
haben eingekauft
sein eingeschlafen
sein eisgelaufen
haben (sich) entspannt
haben gegessen
haben fotografiert
sein geklettert
haben eine Pause gemacht
haben geschlafen
haben geschrieben
haben geschwommen
haben gesungen
haben die Videospiele gespielt
sein gesprungen
haben gesorgt
haben getanzt

Use *kein* before nouns that have indefinite articles or no articles. Remember to change the ending so that it matches the noun to which it refers.

CHAPTER 7

PRACTICE 1

Ich werde Frühstück essen.

Du wirst durch den Park laufen.

Er wird spät schlafen.

Wir werden zu viel Bier trinken.

Ihr werdet zuhause bleiben.

Sie werden Lebensmittel kaufen.

Ich werde nach Deutschland fliegen.

Er wird die ganze Nacht tanzen.

Wir werden früh aufstehen.

Ihr werdet eine Pause machen.

PRACTICE 2

Mario wird nach Berlin reisen.

Er wird im Juli fliegen.

Mario wird mit Julia reisen.

Julia wird ihre Familie in Frankreich besuchen.

Mario wird zwei Wochen in Berlin bleiben.

Julia wird mit dem Auto nach Frankreich fahren.

Sie wird eine Woche in Berlin bleiben.

CHAPTER 8

PRACTICE 1

Wohinter steht die Oper?

Welche Richtung fährt dieser Bus?

Welche Richtung fährt der Bus?

Wohin fährt der Bus?

Wohin fährt dieser Bus?

Wie komme ich zum Museum?

Wie komme ich zu dem Museum?

Wo ist der Museum?

Wohin gehst du?

Wohin gehen Sie?

Wohin geht ihr?

Wie komme ich zur Oper?

Wie komme ich zu der Oper?

Wo ist der Oper?

REVIEW

Ich bin allergisch dagegen.

Die Oper steht dahinter.

Der Theater steht davor.

Das Buch liegt darunter.

Die Leute kommen daraus.

Ich gehe gerade darin.

Die Lampe hängt darüber.

Ich fahre dadurch.

Ich werde danach zurück zuhause gehen.

Ich werde das Buch darauf legen.

One way street

Bus stop

Separate lanes for pedestrians and cyclists

Toilet

No entry

No vehicles of any kind allowed

Motorcycles only

No stopping

No parking

Stop here on red

Maximum speed limit

Minimum speed limit

CHAPTER 9

PRACTICE 1

Ich finde, dass der Film sehr gut ist.

Dass der Film sehr gut ist, finde ich.

Ich habe gesagt, dass ich Hunger habe.

Dass ich Hunger habe, habe ich gesagt.

Ich habe gehört, dass das Buch langweilig ist.

Dass das Buch langweilig ist, habe ich gehört.

Ich kann nicht glauben, dass der Sommer so kalt ist.

Dass der Sommer so kalt ist, kann ich nicht glauben.

Ich möchte das Bier, das aus Deutschland kommt.

Das Bier, das aus Deutschland kommt, möchte ich.

REVIEW

Das Buch, das *The Sun Also Rises* heißt, liegt auf dem Tisch.

Das Restaurant, das mir gefällt, steht hinter dem Museum.

Der Film, der mir nicht gefällt, ist im Kino.

Der Wein, der ich bestellt habe, ist schlecht.

Das Bier, das ich bestellt habe, ist vom Fass.

Ich glaube, das der Wein aus Frankreich kommt.

Ich habe gesagt, dass ich das Wiener Schnitzel hätte.

Ich habe gehört, dass Sie gute Salate servieren.

Ich glaube, dass das Restaurant steht dahinter.

Die Tagessuppe, die wir heute haben, schmeckt sehr gut.

Du siehst aus, als ob du Hunger hast.

Sie sehen aus, als ob Sie Hunger haben.

Sie sehen aus, als ob sie Durst haben.

Wir sehen aus, als ob wir satt bin.

QUICK REFERENCES

PRONUNCIATION

DIE AUSSPRACHE

Letter der Buchstabe	Pronunciation die Aussprache	Example das Beispiel
A	ah	der Apfel (apple)
B	bay	der Bruder (brother)
C	tsay	Celsius (Celsius)
D	day	Dienstag (Tuesday)
E	a (like the English A)	essen (to eat)
F	eff	der Freund (Friend)
G	gay	gut (good)
H	hah	der Hammer (hammer)
I	ee	interessieren (to interest)
J	yot	das Jahr (year)
K	kah	der Kugelschreiber (pen)
L	El	das Land (land, country)
M	em	der Mann (man)
N	en	nein (no)
O	Oh	die Oper (opera)
P	pay	die Polizei (police)
Q	koo	bequem (comfortable)
R	er	der Raum (space, room)
S	es Note: when followed by a vowel, it is pronounced as the English z.	der Sommer (Summer) die Maus (mouse)
T	tay	die Tankstelle

U	ooh	(gas station) die Universität (university)
V	fow	der Vogel (bird)
W	vay	auf Wiedersehen (goodbye)
X	kz sound as in “hex”	die Hexe (witch)
Y	Same as the English y	typisch (typical)
Z	ts sound like the end of “pits”	die Zeitung (newspaper)
Ä	Similar to the e in “yellow”	ähnlich (similar)
Ö	Similar to the i in “girl”	Österreich (Austria)
Ü	As in “über,” no English equivalent	müde (tired)
ß	Double ss sound	die Straße (street)

POSSESSIVE PRONOUNS

POSSESSIVPRONOMEN

Nominative	Akkusative	Dativ	Genitiv
Ich	Mich	Mir	Mein
Du	Dich	Dir	Dein
Er	Ihn	Ihm	Sein
Sie	Sie	Ihr	Ihr
Es	Es	Ihm	Sein
Wir	Uns	Uns	Unser
Ihr	Euch	Euch	Euer
Sie/sie	Sie/sie	Ihnen/ihnen	Ihr/ihr

Dativ Präpositionen

ab	<i>from, off, away, starting</i>
außer	<i>except, besides, excluding</i>
zu	<i>to, toward, at, for, in, on</i>
nach	<i>toward, after, to, past, on, following, of</i>
bei	<i>for, by, at, on, with, upon, during, near</i>
von	<i>by, of, from, off, out of</i>
aus	<i>from, out, of, made of</i>
mit	<i>with, by, involving, at</i>
seit	<i>since</i>
gegenüber	<i>toward, versus, across from, opposite to</i>

Akkusativ Präpositionen

bis	<i>until, to, by, before</i>
durch	<i>through, across, by, via, due to, by means of</i>
für	<i>for, per</i>
ohne	<i>without</i>
gegen	<i>against, toward, about, versus</i>
um	<i>about, around, at</i>

Wechsel Präpositionen

in	<i>in, into, at, on, within</i>
an	<i>at, on, by, to, in</i>
auf	<i>on, onto, to, at, up, in</i>
neben	<i>beside, alongside, nearby</i>
hinter	<i>behind, afterward, at the back of</i>
über	<i>about, above, across, over</i>
unter	<i>among, below</i>
vor	<i>before, ago, of, from, off</i>
zwischen	<i>among, between</i>

Genitiv Präpositionen

anstatt/	<i>instead of</i>
statt	
außerhalb	<i>outside of</i>
innerhalb	<i>inside of</i>
trotz	<i>despite, in spite of</i>
während	<i>during, in the course of</i>
wegen	<i>because of</i>

Questions and Adverbs with Prepositions

Fragen und Adverbien mit Präpositionen

Wobei	Whereby, whereas, where	dabei	thereby, present, close by
--------------	--------------------------------	--------------	-----------------------------------

Wodurch	How, by what means, in what way	dadurch	thus, thereby, in this way
Wofür	Wherefore, for what	dafür	therefore, for that
Wogegen	against what	dagegen	against that
Woher	from where, wherefrom, wherefore, whence	daher	from there, therefore, hence
Wohin	to where, whereto, wither	dahin	to there, thither
Womit	how, with what	damit	with that, therewith
Wonach	after what, whereupon, of what	danach	after that, thereupon, of that
Worauf	whereupon, whereat, on top of what	darauf	thereupon, thereat, on top of
Woraus	whence, what from	daraus	hence, thereof, out of that
Worin	wherein, in what	darin	therein, in that
Worüber	what about, above what	darüber	about that, above that
Worunter	under what	darunter	under that
Wovon	from what, whereof	davon	from that, thereof
Wovor	what of, in front of what	davor	of that, in front of that
Wozu	wherefore, why, whereto, to what end	dazu	thereto, to that, to this end, in addition to that
Worum	what about	darum	about that
	behind what	dahinter	behind that
Wohinter			

Preposition Contractions

Präpositionen Verkürzungen

	das	dem	der
an	ans	am	
auf	aufs		
bei		beim	
in	ins	im	
hinter	hinters		
über	übers		
unter	unters		
von		vom	
vor	vors		
zu		zum	zur

Numbers

Zahlen

1	Eins	Aynz
---	------	------

2	Zwei	Tsvay
3	Drei	Dry
4	Vier	Fear
5	Fünf	Fooenf
6	Sechs	Zeks
7	Sieben	Zee-ben
8	Acht	Ahhkt
9	Neun	Noyn
10	Zehn	Tsayn
11	Elf	Elf
12	Zwölf	Tsvoulf
13	Dreizehn	Dry-Tsayn
14	Vierzehn	Fear-Tsayn
15	Fünfzehn	Fooenf-Tsayn
16	Sechzehn	Zek-Tsayn
17	Siebzehn	Zeeb-Tsayn
18	Achtzehn	Ahhkt-Tsayn
19	Neunzehn	Noyn-Tsayn
20	Zwanzig	Tsvan-seeg
21	Einundzwanzig	Ayn-oond-tsvan-tseeg
22	Zweiundzwanzig	Tsvay-oond-tsvan-tseeg
23	Dreiundzwanzig	Dry-oond-tsvan-tseeg
24	Vierundzwanzig	Fear-oond-tsvan-tseeg
25	Fünfundzwanzig	Fooenf-oond-tsvan-tseeg
26	Sechszwanzig	Zeks-oond-tsvan-tseeg
27	Siebenundzwanzig	Zee-ben-oond-tsvan-tseeg
28	Achtundzwanzig	Ahhkt-oond-tsvan-tseeg
29	Neunundzwanzig	Noyn-oond-tsvan-tseeg
30	Dreißig	Dry-tseeg
31	Einunddreißig	Ayn-oond-dry-tseeg
32	Zweiunddreißig	Tsvay-oond-dry-tseeg
33	Dreiunddreißig	Dry-oond-dry-tseeg
34	Vierunddreißig	Vier-oond-dry-tseeg
35	Fünfunddreißig	Fooenf-oond-dry-tseeg
36	Sechszunddreißig	Zeks-oond-dry-tseeg
37	Siebenunddreißig	Zee-ben-oond-dry-tseeg
38	Achtunddreißig	Ahhkt-oond-dry-tseeg
39	Neununddreißig	Noyn-oond-dry-tseeg
40	Vierzig	Fear-tseeg
41	Einundvierzig	Ayn-oond-fear-tseeg
42	Zweiundvierzig	Tsvay-oond-fear-tseeg
43	Dreiundvierzig	Dry-oond-fear-tseeg
44	Vierundvierzig	Fear-oond-fear-tseeg
45	Fünfundvierzig	Fooenf-oond-fear-tseeg
46	Sechszundvierzig	Zeks-oond-fear-tseeg
47	Siebenundvierzig	Zee-ben-oond-fear-tseeg
48	Achtundvierzig	Ahhkt-oond-fear-tseeg
49	Neunundvierzig	Noyn-oond-fear-tseeg
50	Fünfzig	Fooenf-tseeg
51	Einundfünfzig	Ayn-oond-fooenf-tseeg

52	Zweiundfünfzig	Tsvay-oond-fooenf-tseeg
53	Dreiundfünfzig	Dry-oond-fooenf-tseeg
54	Vierundfünfzig	Fear-oond-fooenf-tseeg
55	Fünfundfünfzig	Fooenf-oond-fooenf-tseeg
56	Sechsunfünfzig	Zeks-oond-fooenf-tseeg
57	Siebenundfünfzig	Zee-ben-oond-fooenf-tseeg
58	Achtundfünfzig	Ahhkt-oond-fooenf-tseeg
59	Neunundfünfzig	Noyn-oond-fooenf-tseeg
60	Sechzig	Zek-tseeg
61	Einundsechzig	Ayn-oond-zek-tseeg
62	Zweiundsechzig	Tsvay-oond-zek-tseeg
63	Dreiundsechzig	Dry-oond-zek-tseeg
64	Vierundsechzig	Fear-oond-zek-tseeg
65	Fünfundsechzig	Foeenf-oond-zek-tseeg
66	Sechsunsechzig	Zeks-oond-zek-tseeg
67	Siebenundsechzig	Zee-ben-oond-zek-tseeg
68	Achtundsechzig	Ahhkt-oond-zek-tseeg
69	Neunundsechzig	Noyn-oond-zek-tseeg
70	Siebzig	Zeeb-tseeg
71	Einundsiebzig	Ayn-oond-zeeb-tseeg
72	Zweiundsiebzig	Tsvay-oond-zeeb-tseeg
73	Dreiundsiebzig	Dry-oond-zeeb-tseeg
74	Vierundsiebzig	Fear-oond-zeeb-tseeg
75	Fünfundsiebzig	Fooenf-oond-zeeb-tseeg
76	Sechsunsiebzig	Zeks-oond-zeeb-tseeg
77	Siebenundsiebzig	Zee-ben-oond-zeeb-tseeg
78	Achtundsiebzig	Ahhkt-oond-zeeb-tseeg
79	Neunundsiebzig	Noyn-oond-zeeb-tseeg
80	Achtzig	Ahhkt-tseeg
81	Einundachtzig	Ayn-oond-ahhkt-tseeg
82	Zweiundachtzig	Tsvay-oond-ahhkt-tseeg
83	Dreiundachtzig	Dry-oond-ahhkt-tseeg
84	Vierundachtzig	Fear-oond-ahhkt-tseeg
85	Fünfundachtzig	Fooenf-oond-ahhkt-tseeg
86	Sechsunachtzig	Zeks-oond-ahhkt-tseeg
87	Siebenundachtzig	Zee-ben-oond-ahhkt-tseeg
88	Achtundachtzig	Ahhkt-oond-ahhkt-tseeg
89	Neunundachtzig	Noyn-oond-ahhkt-tseeg
90	Neunzig	Noyn-tseeg
91	Einundneunzig	Ayn-oond-noyn-tseeg
92	Zweiundneunzig	Tsvay-oond-noyn-tseeg
93	Dreiundneunzig	Dry-oond-noyn-tseeg
94	Vierundneunzig	Fear-oond-noyn-tseeg
95	Fünfundneunzig	Foonf-oond-noyn-tseeg
96	Sechsunneunzig	Zeks-oond-noyn-tseeg
97	Siebenundneunzig	Zee-ben-oond-noyn-tseeg
98	Achtundneunzig	Ahhkt-oond-noyn-tseeg
99	Neunundneunzig	Noyn-oond-noyn-tseeg
100	Hundert	Hoon-Dirt

Cognates die Kognaten

akzeptieren

aktiv

die Adresse

der Agent

der Alarm

all/alle

allergisch

Amerikaner(in)

April

das Baby

der Ball

Balkon

der Band

das Bett

das Bier

die Familie

fantastisch

das Fett

der Film

finden

vorwärts

frisch

die Hälfte

das Hobby

der Hunger

blond(e)

das Buch

der Bus

die Zigarette

der Kaffee

der Tee

kompliziert

das Konzert

der Kompromiss

kosten

kreativ

tanzen

trinken

existieren

falsch

das Eis

die Idee

der Idiot

intelligent

der Job

kaputt

lernen

der Markt

die Natur

das Paar

Road Signs in Germany

die Verkehrsschilder in Deutschland



One Way Street



Stay to the Right



Bus Stop



Hospital



Shared Pedestrian/Cyclists Lane



Separate Lanes for Pedestrians and Cyclists



End of Pedestrian Zone



Residential Area



No Vehicles of any Kind Allowed



Motorcycles and Cars Only



No Bicycles Allowed



Weight Limit



Width Limit



Height Limit



Length Limit



No Entry



No Stopping



No Parking



Park on Sidewalk



Maximum Speed Limit



Minimum Speed Limit



End of Minimum Speed Limit Zone



No Passing Allowed



Follow Alternate Route



Toll Road



Dead End



Stop Here on Red



Toilet

Caution: Skiers Crossing

500 Most Common Words in German

500 Häufigste Wörter im Deutschen

Wort	Bedeutung	Wort	Bedeutung
ab	from, away, ex-	hatte	(I/he/she/it) had
der Abend	evening	das Haus	(past tense first person and third person singular of haben) house
acht	eight	heiß	hot
alle	all, every	heißen	to be called
allein	alone	heißt	(you[informal]/he/she/it) is/are called
als	than, as, when	helfen	to call
also	so	her	from, forth
alt	old	heraus	out of, forth
an	at, on, by, to	Herr	mister, sir
andere	other	das Herz	heart
anfangen	to begin	heute	today
Angst	fear	hier	here
antworten	to answer, reply	die Hilfe	help, aid, relief
der Apfel	apple	der Himmel	sky, heaven
die Arbeit	work	hinein	into
arbeiten	to work	hinter	behind, after, rear
der Arzt	doctor	hoch	high
auch	also	holen	to fetch, to get
auf	on, at, in, up, to	das Holz	wood
die Auge	eye	hören	to listen, to hear
aus	out, from, of, off	der Hund	dog
das Auto	car	der Hunger	hunger
baden	to bathe	ich	I, me, ego
bald	soon	ihm	him

			(dative pronoun)
der Ball	ball	ihn	him
			(accusative pronoun)
bauen	to build	ihr	her, their, your
			(dative pronoun for sie [she], sie [they], and Sie [you, formal])
			Also: you guys, you all (informal, plural you)
Bauer	farmer	im	(contraction of in + dem)
der Baum	tree	immer	always
beginnen	to begin	in	in, into, at, on
bei	by, for, at, on, with, during, near, in	ins	(contraction of in + das)
beide	both	ist	(he/she/it) is
das Bein	leg	ja	yes
das Beispiel	example	das Jahr	year
beißen	to bite	jeder	each, every, any, all
bekommen	to receive	jetzt	now
der Berg	mountain	jung	young
besser	better	der Junge	boy
das Bett	bed	kalt	cold
das Bild	picture	kam	(I/he/she/it) came
			(past tense first person and third person singular of kommen)
bin	(I) am	kann	(I/he/she/it) can
bis	until, to, by, before	die Katze	cat
blau	blue	kaufen	to buy
bleiben	to remain, stay	kein	none
die Blume	flower	kennen	to know, to be familiar with
der Boden	floor, ground	das Kind	child
böse	evil, bad	die Klasse	class
brauchen	to need	klein	small, little
der Brief	letter	klettern	to climb
bringen	to bring	kochen	to cook
das Brot	bread	kommen	to come
der Bruder	brother	können	can
			(to be able to)
das Buch	book	der Kopf	head
da	there, here, because, then, when	krank	sick
dabei	thereby, at the same time, as well, nearby	kurz	short
dafür	therefore, for it, for that, for that reason	lachen	to laugh
damit	thereby, hence, so that, for this	das Land	land, country

	reason, with that said		
danach	afterward, next, then, after which	lang	long
dann	then, next, in that case, after that	langsam	slow
daran	thereon, thereto, at it	las	(I/he/she/it) read
			(past tense first person and third person singular of lesen)
darauf	upon, thereafter, on it, on top of	lassen	to let, to allow
darin	in it, therein, in that respect	laufen	to run
dauern	to last, to take (an amount of time)	laut	loud
			(also: according to)
davon	of it, from it, thereof	leben	to live
dazu	to it, in addition to, thereto, as well, for this purpose	legen	to put, to lay
dem	(dative case for "Der" and "Das")	Lehrer	(male) teacher
den	(accusative case for "Der", dative case for plural "Die")	Lehrerin	(female) teacher
denken	to think	leicht	light, easy
deshalb	therefore, hence, that's why, as a result	leise	quiet
dick	thick, fat	lernen	to study, to learn
diese	these, those	lesen	to read
das Ding	thing	letzte	last, latter, final
dir	(to) you	die Leute	people
doch	yes (to contradict a negative statement)	das Licht	light
draußen	outside, out there	liegen	to lay, to lie
drehen	to turn, to spin	ließ	(I/he/she/it) let
			(past tense first person and third person singular of lassen)
drei	three	das Loch	hole
dumm	stupid, silly, foolish	los	off, loose
dunkel	dark	die Luft	air
durch	through, across, by means of	lustig	funny, amusing
dürfen	to be allowed to, may	machen	to do, to make
eigentlich	actually	das Mädchen	girl
ein	one, a	mal	once, times, multiplied by
einer	a, any	man	one
			(pronoun)
einfach	simply, just	der Mann	man
einige	own	die Maus	mouse
das Eis	ice, ice cream	das Meer	sea, ocean
die Eltern	parents	mehr	more, further
die Ende	end	mein	my, mine
endlich	finally	der Mensch	person, human

er	he	merken	to notice, to realize
die Erde	earth	mich	me, myself (first person accusative)
erklären	to explain, clarify	die Milch	milk
erschrecken	to frighten, to startle	die Minute	minute
erst	first	mir	(to) me (first person dative)
erzählen	to tell, to narrate	mit	with, by
es	it	mögen	to want
essen	to eat	möglich	possible
etwas	something, anything, somewhat, slightly	der Monat	month
fahren	to drive	müde	tired, weary
das Fahrrad	bicycle	die Musik	music
fährt	(he/she/it) drives	muss	(I/he/she/it) must
fallen	to fall, to drop, to decline	müssen	must (to have to)
die Familie	family	die Mutter	mother
fangen	to catch, trap, get hold of	nach	after, toward, to
fast	almost, nearly	nächste	next, nearest
fehlen	to lack, to miss, to err	die Nacht	night
der Fehler	Mistake, flaw, fault, error	nah	near, close, imminent
das Feld	field, array, area, scope	nahm	(I/he/she/it) took (past tense first person and third person singular of nehmen)
das Fenster	window	der Name	name
die Ferien	vacation	nämlich	namely
fertig	ready, finished	die Nase	nose
fest	firm, fixed, strongly	nass	wet
das Feuer	fire	natürlich	of course, naturally
fiel	(I/he/she/it) fell (past tense first person and third person singular of fallen)	neben	beside, by
finden	to find	nehmen	to take
fing	(I/he/she/it) caught (past tense first person and third person singular of fangen)	nein	no
der Finger	finger	nennen	to name, to call, to designate
der Fisch	fish	neu	new
die Flasche	bottle, flask	neun	nine
fliegen	to fly	nicht	not
die Frage	question	nichts	nothing, none
fragen	to question, ask	nie	never
die Frau	woman	nimmt	(he/she/it) takes

frei	available, vacant, spare	noch	still, yet, nor
fressen	to eat (usually of animals)	nun	now
die Freude (sich) freuen der Freund	joy, pleasure to delight, to be glad (male) friend	nur ob oben	only whether, if above, upstairs
fröhlich früh	cheerful, happy early	oder offen	or open, honest, sincere
fuhr	(I/he/she/it) drove	öffnen	to open
führen	(past tense first person and third person singular of fahren) to lead, to guide	oft	often, frequently
fünf	five	ohne	without
für	for	die Oma	grandma
Fuß	foot	der Onkel	uncle
Fußball	football (soccer)	der Opa	grandpa
gab	(I/he/she/it) gave (past tense first person and third person singular of geben)	packen	to seize, to pack, to grab
ganz	whole, entire, all	das Pferd	horse
gar	very, really	der Platz	place, (town)square, seat
der Garten	garden	plötzlich	suddenly
geben	to give	die Polizei	police
der Geburtstag	birthday	das Rad	wheel
gefährlich	dangerous	rechnen	to calculate, to compute
gegen	against, toward	reden	to talk, to converse
gehen	to go	reich	rich, wealthy
gehören	to belong (to) (always followed by dative case noun)	reiten	to ride
gelb	yellow	rennen	to run
das Geld	money	richtig	correct, right
genau	exactly	rot	red
gerade	just now, currently, directly (ahead), exactly gladly, willingly	rufen	to call, to shout, to exclaim
gern		ruhig	calm, quite, restful
das Geschenk	gift	rund	round, spherical, roughly, about
die Geschichte	history, story	die Sache	matter, thing, affair
das Gesicht	face	sagen	to say
gestern	yesterday	sah	(I/he/she/it) saw
gesund	healthy, fit		(past tense first person and third person singular of sehen)
gewinnen	to gain, to win	sammeln	to collect
		schaffen	to create, to accomplish, to defeat, to execute (a plan), to work, to handle

gibt	(he/she/it) gives	schauen	to look, to watch
ging	(I/he/she/it) went (past tense first person and third person singular of gehen)	scheinen	to seem, to appear, to glisten
das Glas	glass, jar	schenken	to give (as a gift)
glauben	to believe, to think	schicken	to send
gleich	like, similar	das Schiff	ship, boat
das Glück	fortune, luck, happiness	schlafen	to sleep
glücklich	happy, lucky	schlagen	to beat, to hit
der Gott	god	schlecht	bad
groß	large, tall, great, vast	schließen	to close, to shut
grün	green	schlimm	bad, sad
gut	good	der Schluss	conclusion, end, closure
das Haar	hair	der Schnee	snow
haben	to have	schnell	fast
halb	half	schon	already, yet
halten	to keep, to hold, to retain	schön	beautiful, pleasant, handsome
die Hand	hand	schreiben	to write
hängen	to hang, to pend	schreien	to scream, to shout
hart	hard, tough, severe	schrieb	(I/he/she/it) wrote
der Hase	rabbit	die Schule	(past tense first person and third person singular of schreiben) school
hast	(you) have	der Schüler	schoolchild, student
hat	(he/she/it) has	schwarz	black
schwer	heavy, difficult	sitzen	to sit
die Schwester	sister	so	thus, as, such, that way, like this
schwimmen	to swim	sofort	immediately
sechs	six	der Sohn	son
der See	lake, sea	soll	(I/he/she/it) shall
sehen	to see	sollen	shall (to be supposed to)
sehr	very	der Sommer	summer
sein	to be	der Sonntag	Sunday
die Seite	page, side	sonst	otherwise, else
selbst	self	der Spaß	fun
setzen	to put, to set	spät	late
sich	oneself	das Spiel	game
sicher	(reflexive pronoun) sure, certain, secure	spielen	to play
sieben	seven	sprechen	to speak
sieht	(he/she/it) sees (we/they/you[formal]) are	springen	to jump

sind singen	<i>to sing</i>	die Stadt stand	<i>(I/he/she/it) stood</i> <i>(past tense first person and third person singular of stehen)</i>
stark stehen	<i>strong, powerful</i> to stand	turnen über	<i>to do gymnastics</i> about, above, across, over, on, at, via
steigen	to climb, to increase	überall	everywhere, anywhere, universally
der Stein	stone, brick	die Uhr	clock, watch, o'clock
die Stelle	position, spot, job	um	about, around, at, by
stellen	to put, to place	uns	us, ourselves
das Stück	piece, slice	unser	our
die Stunde	hour	unten	below, downstairs
die Straße	street	unter	under, among
suchen	to search	der Vater	father
der Tag	day	vergessen	to forget
die Tante	aunt	verkaufen	to sell
der Teller	plate	verlieren	to lose
tief	deep, low, profound	verstecken	to hide
das Tier	animal	verstehen	to understand
der Tisch	table	versuchen	to try
tot	dead	viel	much, a lot of
tragen	to wear, to carry	vielleicht	maybe
traurig	sad	vier	four
(sich) treffen	to meet	der Vogel	bird
trinken	to drink	voll	full, entire, complete
tun	to do	vom	(contraction of von + dem)
die Tür	door	von	of, by, from, off, out of
vor	before, in front of, from past, over	weinen	to cry
		weiß	white also: (I/he/she/it) knows
vorbei			
der Wagen	car, wagon	weit	far, wide
wahr	true, real	die Welt	world
der Wald	forest	wenig	little
war	(I/he/she/it) was (past tense first person and third person singular of sein)	wenn	if, when
warm	warm	wer	who
warten	to wait	werden	will, going to (also: to become, to turn into)
warum	why	werfen	to throw
was	what	das Wetter	weather
waschen	to wash	wichtig	important
das Wasser	water	wie	how, like, as
der Weg	the way, path	wieder	again
weg	away, off, gone	die Wiese	meadow, pasture

das Weihnachten
weil
der Winter

Christmas
because
winter

will
der Wind
Zahl

(I/he/she/it) want(s)
wind
number, digit, figure

wir
wird
wirklich
wissen

we
(he/she/it) will/becomes
really
to know

zehn
zeigen
die Zeit
die Zeitung

ten
to show
time
newspaper

wo
die Woche
wohl
wohnen
die Wohnung
wollen
das Wort

where
week
probably, indeed
to reside, to live
apartment
to want
word

ziehen
das Zimmer
zu
der Zug
zum
zur
zurück

to pull
room
to, on, at, by way of, in order to
train,
(contraction of zu + dem)
(contraction of zu + der)
back, backwards

wünschen
zwei

to wish
two

zusammen

together

Verben

sein
to be

ich
du
er/sie/es
wir
ihr
Sie/sie

ich
du
er/sie/Es
wir
ihr
Sie/sie

ich
du
er/sie/es
wir
ihr
Sie/sie
haben
to have

Konjugationen

Präsens

bin
bist
ist
sind
seid
sind
Präteritum

war
warst
war
waren
wart
waren
Perfekt

bin gewesen
bist gewesen
ist gewesen
sind gewesen
seid gewesen
sind gewesen
Präsens

Verben

werden
will (going to),
to become

ich
du
er/sie/es
wir
ihr
Sie/sie

ich
du
er/sie/es
wir
ihr
Sie/sie

ich
du
er/sie/es
wir
ihr
Sie/sie
können
can,

Konjugationen

Präsens

werde
wirst
wird
werden
werdet
werden
Präteritum

wurde
wurdest
wurde
wurden
wurdet
wurden
Perfekt

bin geworden
bist geworden
ist geworden
sind geworden
seid geworden
sind geworden
Präsense

		to be able to	
ich	habe	ich	kann
du	hast	du	kannst
er/sie/es	hat	er/sie/es	kann
wir	haben	wir	können
ihr	habt	ihr	könnt
Sie/sie	haben	Sie/sie	können
	Präteritum		Präteritum
ich	hatte	ich	konnte
du	hattest	du	konntest
er/sie/es	hatte	er/sie/es	konnte
wir	hatten	wir	konnten
ihr	hattet	ihr	konntet
Sie/sie	hatten	Sie/sie	konnten
	Perfekt		Perfekt
ich	habe gehabt	ich	habe gekonnt
du	hast gehabt	du	hast gekonnt
er/sie/es	hat gehabt	er/sie/es	hat gekonnt
wir	haben gehabt	wir	haben gekonnt
ihr	habt gehabt	ihr	habt gekonnt
Sie/sie	haben gehabt	Sie/sie	haben gekonnt
sollen	Präsens	sagen	Präsens
shall,		to say	
to be supposed to			
ich	soll	ich	sage
du	sollst	du	sagst
er/sie/es	soll	er/sie/es	sagt
wir	sollen	wir	sagen
ihr	sollt	ihr	sagt
Sie/sie	sollen	Sie/sie	sagen
	Präteritum		Präteritum
ich	sollte	ich	sagte
du	solltest	du	sagtest
er/sie/es	sollte	er/sie/es	sagte
wir	sollten	wir	sagten
ihr	solltet	ihr	sagtet
Sie/sie	sollten	Sie/sie	sagten
	Perfekt		Perfekt
ich	habe gesollt	ich	habe gesagt
du	hast gesollt	du	hast gesagt
er/sie/es	hat gesollt	er/sie/es	hat gesagt
wir	haben gesollt	wir	haben gesagt
ihr	habt gesollt	ihr	habt gesagt
Sie/sie	haben gesollt	Sie/sie	haben gesagt
geben	Präsens	müssen	Präsens
to give		must,	
		to have to	

ich
du
er/sie/es
wir

gebe
gibst
gibt
geben

ich
du
er/sie/es
wir

muss
musst
muss
müssen

ihr
Sie/sie

gebt
geben
Präteritum

ihr
Sie/sie

müsst
müssen
Präteritum

ich
du
er/sie/es
wir
ihr
Sie/sie

gab
gabst
gab
gaben
gabt
gaben
Perfekt

ich
du
er/sie/es
wir
ihr
Sie/sie

musste
musstest
musste
mussten
musstet
mussten
Perfekt

ich
du
er/sie/es
wir
ihr

habe gegeben
hast gegeben
hat gegeben
haben gegeben
habt gegeben

ich
du
er/sie/es
wir
ihr

habe gemusst
hast gemusst
hat gemusst
haben gemusst
habt gemusst

Sie/sie
gehen
to go, to walk
ich
du
er/sie/es

haben gegeben
Präsens
gehe
gehst
geht

Sie/sie
wollen
to want
ich
du
er/sie/es

haben gemusst
Präsens
will
willst
will

wir
ihr
Sie/sie

gehen
geht
gehen
Präteritum

wir
ihr
Sie/sie

wollen
wollt
wollen
Präteritum

ich
du
er/sie/es
wir
ihr
Sie/sie

ging
gingst
ging
gingen
gingt
gingen
Perfekt

ich
du
er/sie/es
wir
ihr
Sie/sie

wollte
wolltest
wollte
wollten
wolltet
wollten
Perfekt

ich
du
er/sie/es
wir
ihr
Sie/sie
machen
to do, to make

bin gegangen
bist gegangen
ist gegangen
sind gegangen
seid gegangen
sind gegangen
Präsens

ich
du
er/sie/es
wir
ihr
Sie/sie
lassen
to let, to leave

habe gewollt
hast gewollt
hat gewollt
haben gewollt
habt gewollt
haben gewollt
Präsens

ich
du
er/sie/es
wir
ihr

mache
machst
macht
machen
macht

ich
du
er/sie/es
wir
ihr

lasse
lässt
lässt
lassen
lasst

Sie/sie

machen
Präteritum

Sie/sie

lassen
Präteritum

ich
du
er/sie/es
wir

machte
machtest
machte
machten

ich
du
er/sie/es
wir

ließ
ließest
ließ
ließen

ihr
Sie/sie

machtet
machten
Perfekt

ihr
Sie/sie

ließ
ließen
Perfekt

ich
du
er/sie/es
wir
ihr
Sie/sie
stehen
to stand

habe gemacht
hast gemacht
hat gemacht
haben gemacht
habt gemacht
haben gemacht
Präsens

ich
du
er/sie/es
wir
ihr
Sie/sie
kommen
to come

habe gelassen
hast gelassen
hat gelassen
haben gelassen
habt gelassen
haben gelassen
Präsens

ich
du
er/sie/es
wir
ihr
Sie/sie

stehe
stehs
steht
stehen
steht
stehen
Präteritum

ich
du
er/sie/es
wir
ihr
Sie/sie

komme
kommst
kommt
kommen
kommt
kommen
Präteritum

ich
du
er/sie/es
wir
ihr
Sie/sie

stand
standst
stand
standen
standet
standen
Perfekt

ich
du
er/sie/es
wir
ihr
Sie/sie

kam
kamst
kam
kamen
kamt
kamen
Perfekt

ich
du
er/sie/es
wir
ihr
Sie/sie
heißen
to be called

habe gestanden
hast gestanden
hat gestanden
haben gestanden
habt gestanden
haben gestanden
Präsens

ich
du
er/sie/es
wir
ihr
Sie/sie
liegen
to lay

bin gekommen
bist gekommen
ist gekommen
sind gekommen
seid gekommen
sind gekommen
Präsens

ich
du
er/sie/es
wir
ihr
Sie/sie

heiße
heißt
heißt
heißen
heißt
heißen

ich
du
er/sie/es
wir
ihr
Sie/sie

liege
liegst
liegt
liegen
liegt
liegen

Präteritum

ich
du
er/sie/es
wir
ihr
Sie/sie

hieß
hießt
hieß
hießen
hießt
hießen

ich
du
er/sie/es
wir
ihr
Sie/sie

Präteritum

lag
lagst
lag
lagen
lagt
lagen

Perfekt

ich
du
er/sie/es
wir
ihr
Sie/sie

habe geheißen
hast geheißen
hat geheißen
haben geheißen
habt geheißen
haben geheißen

ich
du
er/sie/es
wir
ihr
Sie/sie

Perfekt

habe gelegen
hast gelegen
hat gelegen
haben gelegen
habt gelegen
haben gelegen

sehen

to see

Präsens

ich
du
er/sie/es
wir
ihr
Sie/sie

sehe
siehst
sieht
sehen
seht
sehen

bleiben
to stay, to remain

ich
du
er/sie/es
wir
ihr
Sie/sie

bleibe
bleibst
bleibt
bleiben
bleibt
bleiben

Präteritum

ich
du
er/sie/es
wir

sah
sahst
sah
sahen

ich
du
er/sie/es
wir

blieb
bliebst
blieb
blieben

ihr
Sie/sie

saht
sahen

ihr
Sie/sie

bleibt
blieben

Perfekt

ich
du
er/sie/es
wir
ihr
Sie/sie

habe gesehen
hast gesehen
hat gesehen
haben gesehen
habt gesehen
haben gesehen

ich
du
er/sie/es
wir
ihr
Sie/sie

Perfekt

bin geblieben
bist geblieben
ist geblieben
sind geblieben
seid geblieben
sind geblieben

gelten

to apply, to pertain

ich

Präsens

gelte

erklären

to explain, to clarify

ich

Präsens

erkläre

du
er/sie/es
wir
ihr
Sie/sie

giltst
gilt
gelten
geltet
gelten
Präteritum

du
er/sie/es
wir
ihr
Sie/sie

erklärst
erklärt
erklären
erklärt
erklären
Präteritum

ich
du
er/sie/es
wir
ihr
Sie/sie

galt
galtest
galt
galten
galtet
galten
Perfekt

ich
du
er/sie/es
wir
ihr
Sie/sie

erklärte
erklärtest
erklärte
erklärten
erklärtet
erklärten
Perfekt

ich

habe gegolten

ich

habe erklärt

du
er/sie/es
wir
ihr
Sie/sie
finden
to find

hast gegolten
hat gegolten
haben gegolten
habt gegolten
haben gegolten
Präsens

du
er/sie/es
wir
ihr
Sie/sie
erhalten
to obtain, to get

hast erklärt
hat erklärt
haben erklärt
habt erklärt
haben erklärt
Präsens

ich
du
er/sie/es
wir
ihr
Sie/sie

finde
findest
findet
finden
findet
finden
Präteritum

ich
du
er/sie/es
wir
ihr
Sie/sie

erhalte
erhältst
erhält
erhalten
erhaltet
erhalten
Präteritum

ich
du
er/sie/es
wir
ihr
Sie/sie

fand
fandst
fand
fanden
fandet
fanden
Perfekt

ich
du
er/sie/es
wir
ihr
Sie/sie

erhielt
erhielst
erhielt
erhielten
erhieltet
erhielten
Perfekt

ich
du
er/sie/es
wir
ihr
Sie/sie
hören
to hear, to listen
ich
du

habe gefunden
hast gefunden
hat gefunden
haben gefunden
habt gefunden
haben gefunden
Präsens
höre
hörst

ich
du
er/sie/es
wir
ihr
Sie/sie
halten
to keep, to hold
ich
du

habe erhalten
hast erhalten
hat erhalten
haben erhalten
habt erhalten
haben erhalten
Präsens
halte
hältst

er/sie/es
wir
ihr
Sie/sie

hört
hören
hört
hören
Präteritum

er/sie/es
wir
ihr
Sie/sie

hält
halten
hält
halten
Präteritum

ich
du
er/sie/es
wir
ihr
Sie/sie

hörte
hörtest
hörte
hörten
hörtet
hörten
Perfekt

ich
du
er/sie/es
wir
ihr
Sie/sie

hielt
hielst
hielt
hielten
hieltet
hielten
Perfekt

ich
du
er/sie/es

habe gehört
hast gehört
hat gehört

ich
du
er/sie/es

habe gehalten
hast gehalten
hat gehalten

wir
ihr
Sie/sie
zeigen
to show

haben gehört
habt gehört
haben gehört
Präsens

wir
ihr
Sie/sie
dürfen
may,
to be allowed to

haben gehalten
habt gehalten
haben gehalten
Präsens

ich
du
er/sie/es
wir
ihr
Sie/sie

zeige
zeigst
zeigt
zeigen
zeigt
zeigen
Präteritum

ich
du
er/sie/es
wir
ihr
Sie/sie

darf
darfst
darf
dürfen
dürft
dürfen
Präteritum

ich
du
er/sie/es
wir
ihr
Sie/sie

zeigte
zeigtest
zeigte
zeigten
zeigtet
zeigten
Perfekt

ich
du
er/sie/es
wir
ihr
Sie/sie

durfte
durftest
durfte
durften
durftet
durften
Perfekt

ich
du
er/sie/es

habe gezeigt
hast gezeigt
hat gezeigt

ich
du
er/sie/es

habe gedurft
hast gedurft
hat gedurft

wir
ihr
Sie/sie
nehmen
to take

haben gezeigt
habt gezeigt
haben gezeigt
Präsens

wir
ihr
Sie/sie
tun
to do

haben gedurft
habt gedurft
haben gedurft
Präsens

ich
du
er/sie/es

nehm
nimmst
nimmt

ich
du
er/sie/es

tue
tust
tut

wir
ihr
Sie/sie

nehmen
nehmt
nehmen
Präteritum

wir
ihr
Sie/sie

tun
tut
tun
Präteritum

ich
du
er/sie/es

nahm
nahmst
nahm

ich
du
er/sie/es

tat
tatest
tat

wir
ihr
Sie/sie

nahmen
nahmt
nahmen
Perfekt

wir
ihr
Sie/sie

taten
tatest
taten
Perfekt

ich
du
er/sie/es

habe genommen
hast genommen
hat genommen
haben genommen
habt genommen

ich
du
er/sie/es

habe getan
hast getan
hat getan
haben getan
habt getan

wir
ihr
Sie/sie

haben genommen
Präsens

Sie/sie
wissen
to know

haben getan
Präsens

bringen
to bring

ich
du
er/sie/es

bringe
bringst
bringt
bringen
bringt
bringen
Präteritum

ich
du
er/sie/es

weiß
weiß
weiß
wissen
wisst
wissen
Präteritum

wir
ihr
Sie/sie

bringen

wir
ihr
Sie/sie

wissen

ich
du
er/sie/es

brachte
brachtest
brachte

ich
du
er/sie/es

wusste
wusstest
wusste

wir
ihr
Sie/sie

brachten
brachtet
brachten
Perfekt

wir
ihr
Sie/sie

wussten
wusstest
wussten
Perfekt

ich
du
er/sie/es

habe gebracht
hast gebracht
hat gebracht
haben gebracht
habt gebracht
haben gebracht

ich
du
er/sie/es

habe gewusst
hast gewusst
hat gewusst
haben gewusst
habt gewusst
haben gewusst

wir
ihr
Sie/sie

wir
ihr
Sie/sie

A PREVIEW TO TRAVEL

PACKING FOR YOUR TRIP

The most important thing that you would carry with yourself in your trip is **a bag in which you can stuff all your belongings**. Most round the world travelers use a backpack. They do not use suitcases simply for the ease that the backpack offers.

Backpacks are really versatile and can go through the process of getting thrown around on buses in various countries. You can carry them with you as you climb the stairs or even the hills. It is just easier to carry a backpack. Climbing an escalator? You can continue to walk as you were walking earlier, with the backpack on your back. You don't have to lift it like a suitcase – isn't this so much comfortable?

Now, what should you do in case you suffer from back problems?

Well, you could then look for a small suitcase with a long handle and wheels. It is a little difficult to carry these suitcases up and down the stairs but a number of companies do make some great travel friendly light weight travel suitcases.

Choosing the right backpack is one of the most crucial steps in your travel preparation. A very large sized backpack may just result in extra weight on your shoulders. Similarly, a very small backpack may not be able to pack all your belongings. A non-waterproof backpack may lead to your clothes and other stuff getting soaked if it rains. Let us look at a few basic characteristics that your backpack should have in order to qualify as sturdy and durable and thus, last you long:

Material: You must ensure that your backpack is 100 percent water proof. Now, some people prefer semi waterproof backpacks as well and then, carry with them tarps that can cover their bags in cases of emergency. In the end, it is a personal choice. Personally, I have never been caught in a severe downpour but have experienced minor rainstorms. I like to carry a 100% waterproof backpack. It just gives me more confidence that my stuff will be protected during a rainstorm.

Locks: All the pockets of your backpack must have two zippers that can be locked together. The locks that you purchase should be TSA friendly. TSA

friendly locks enable the TSA to open and check your bags without breaking the locks. These are easily available at Walmart. Another option that you have is a lockable metal mesh around your bag. This mesh can be wrapped around your bag and then tied to a large object. This is extremely safe, especially in locations where your bag will be unattended for long. However, this also adds a lot of weight to your bag. Most photographers use the metal mesh in order to protect their expensive equipment. Regular travelers, however, use the two zipper option. Choose whatever works for you, but do ensure that your stuff is locked at all times.

Padded back, belt and straps: Try and get a lumbar shaped backpack if possible. This ensures a more natural arch and therefore limits the dangers of back problems. It also creates some space between your backpack and your back, allowing free circulation of air and preventing the build-up of sweat.

Most backpacks today, come with an adjustable chest strap. This helps in distributing the weight forward so that you do not suffer from back and shoulder problems. It enables equal distribution of weight on your upper body which takes the pressure off your shoulders and makes walking longer distances really comfortable.

I normally prefer backpacks with a padded hip belt and shoulder straps in addition to an adjustable chest strap. A padded hip belt helps in an even distribution of weight so that there is minimal load on the back. This leads to lesser strain and eventually lesser back problems. This belt is usually adjustable and you can tighten it for enhanced support.

The shoulder straps ensure that your backpack puts less pressure on your shoulders and also enable it to take the weight off your lower back. This makes carrying the weight more comfortable.

When you look for padding in shoulder straps, hip belt or chest straps, do make sure that the padding is extremely thick and made up of a single piece. This will make your backpack more durable.

Internal frame: Almost all backpacks today come with an internal frame. This implies that the support rods and frames are built into the backpack and are hidden from view. This makes your backpack slimmer and ensures that it doesn't get caught or entangled into anything else. Obviously, your backpack looks

better and smarter. Never ever get a back pack with an external frame that can get caught into anything and also add extra weight to your luggage.

Okay, so you know the characteristics of a good backpack. Now, how do you ensure that you get your best fit?

Well, not one size fits all. So, the simple answer to this is – just go ahead and try it on! Most camping stores are able to stuff your backpack with approximately thirty pounds. Try it on your back and see if you are comfortable. Is the size okay? Is there room for some more stuff? Remember, there must be some extra room for mementos that you might want to pick up on your trip. Does your backpack feel comfortable and proportional to your body? If the answer to all these questions is a ‘yes’, then you have found your perfect backpack! You must also remember that larger sized backpacks are difficult to carry inside the plane and often need to be checked in. While this is not a major hassle, you may just have to spend some time at the baggage claim counter.

The prices of backpacks are dependent on fabric, size and brand and range within \$99-\$300. Personally, I would never buy a backpack for \$300. I don’t think a backpack is worth it! I feel that the more expensive versions are just more fancy and don’t really serve the purpose. I am fine buying a backpack even if it is cheap but meets all the above mentioned criteria. However, if you are really crazy about branded versions, a great way to find a backpack within your budget is by buying last year’s models that are generally available at a discount in specific stores.

Do make sure that you try on a number of backpacks and pick up the one that feels right for you. Just make sure that it meets the above criteria and matches your needs.

But what do you do with the existing stuff?

Well, you have two options: The first one is to minimize your stuff as much as possible by selling what you do not require. The second option involves keeping it in somebody’s house or renting a public storage locker.

I prefer to go with the first option. But once again, it is a personal choice. I don’t want to be worrying about stuff that I don’t need and prefer to sell it via ebay. However, if your belongings are really important to you and you don’t want to part with them, rent a public storage locker and put them in there. The public

storage lockers charge a monthly rent. I would personally not want to worry about my TV or the monthly rental that I am supposed to pay while I trek over the Himalayas. I prefer to spend that money on my travel.

Again, make this choice wisely, depending on your needs.

And what about mail and bills?

Well, as much as possible try to automate things. How about using an automated bill pay system that deducts your payments from your account on a given day every month? This can simplify your life to a great extent.

With respect to mail, try and opt for paperless statements. This will reduce the amount of mail that you get. Apart from this, the only mail that you will really get will be stuff that you did not ask for or junk mail.

In case you really want your mail, I would suggest that you sign up with www.earthclassmail.com . They scan the envelope and send over the image to you. Now, you can decide what you want them to do with this envelope. Would you want them to open and scan all pages? Or should they ship this mail to your current address (wherever in the world you are)? They can even recycle or shred your mail. The membership for earthclassmail begins at \$9.95 per month.

[Travel - How To Travel The World \(Almost\) For Free](#)

THANK YOU

Before you go, I want to warmly say “thank you” from the bottom of my heart! I realize that there are many e-books on the market and you decided to purchase this one so I am forever grateful for that.

Thanks a million for reading this book all the way to very end!

If you enjoyed this book then I need your help!

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